

THE
BRITISH POETS.


V O L. XVI.

EDINBURGH:

Printed for A. KINCAID and W. CREECH,
and J. BALFOUR.

M, DCC, LXXIII.

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THE
P O E T I C A L
W O R K S

O F



Sir SAMUEL GARTH, M. D.

E D I N B U R G H :

Printed for A. KINCAID and W. CREECH,
and J. BALFOUR.

M, DCC, LXXIII.

THE

POETICAL

WORKS



SIR SAMUEL JOHNSON, BART.

EDINBURGH:

Printed for A. Kincaid and W. Creech,

and J. Ballantyne,

MDCCLXXXII.

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A
SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
L I F E
O F

Sir SAMUEL GARTH, M. D.

SIR Samuel Garth, an excellent english poet and physician, was descended of a good family in Yorkshire. After he had passed through his school-education, he was removed to Peter-House in Cambridge, where he was created doctor of physick, July the 7. 1691. His first examination before the college of physicians was on the 12th of March, 1691-2; and he was admitted fellow, June 26. 1693. On the 17th of September 1697, he made a Latin oration before the college, 'to the great satisfaction of the auditors, and his own honour,' as it is expressed in the register of that college. In 1696, he zealously promoted and encouraged the erecting the Dispensary, being an apartment in the college for the relief of the sick poor, by giving them advice *gratis*, and dispensing medicines to them at low rates. This work of charity having exposed him and many other physicians to the envy and resentment of several persons of the same faculty as well as apothecaries, he ridiculed them with a pe-

culiar spirit and vivacity in a poem called the Dispensary * in six cantos, which, though it first stole into the world incorrect in the year 1699, yet bore, in a few months, three impressions, and was afterwards printed several times with a dedication to Anthony Henley, Esq; and commendatory verses by Mr Charles Boyle, afterwards Earl of Orrery, Colonel Christopher Codrington, Thomas Cheek, Esq; and Colonel Henry Blount. This poem raised our author a prodigious reputation; which, together with his great learning and skill in his profession, his politeness, agreeable conversation, and good humour, procured him a vast practice, and gained him the friendship and esteem of most of the nobility and gentry of both sexes. He was one of the most eminent members of a famous society, called the Kit-cat-club, which consisted of above thirty noblemen and gentlemen, distinguished by their excellent parts, and affection to the protestant succession in the house of Hanover. October the 3d, 1702, he was elected one of the censors of the college of physicians. He was in particular favour and esteem with the Duke of Marlborough, whose disgrace and voluntary exile abroad he lamented in a fine copy of verses. In 1711, he wrote a dedication for an intended edition of

* Major Richardson Pack, in his Miscellanies, p. 102. 2d edit. in 8vo, observes, that this poem 'hath lost and gained in every edition. Almost every thing that Sir Samuel left out was a robbery from the public; every thing he added hath been an embellishment to his poem.' These omissions are supplied in this edition.

Lucretius to his late majesty, then elector of Brunswick, upon whose accession to the throne he had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him by his Majesty with the Duke of Marlborough's sword. He was likewise made physician in ordinary to his Majesty, and physician general to the army. As his own merit procured him a great interest with those in power, so his humanity and good nature inclined him to make use of that interest, rather for the support and encouragement of other men of letters, than for the advancement of his own fortune. He wrote some other pieces besides those above mentioned. He died January the 18th, 1718-19, and was interred on the 22d of the same month in the church of Harrow on the Hill, in a vault there built by him for the interment of his family. Mr Pope, in one of his letters, styles him 'the best natured of men;' and tells us, that 'his death was very heroical, and yet unaffected enough to have made a saint or a philosopher famous. But ill tongues and worse hearts have branded even his last moments, as wrongfully as they did his life, with irreligion. You must have heard many tales on this subject; but if ever there was a good Christian without knowing himself to be so, it was Dr Garth.' Mr Granville, afterwards Lord Lansdowne, wrote a fine copy of verses to our author in his illness. He had an only daughter, who was married to Colonel Boyle, brother to Henry Boyle, Esq; speaker of the House of Commons in Ireland, and one of his Majesty's lord justices, and commissioners of his Majesty's revenues in Ireland.

VERSES sent to Dr GARTH in his illness, by Mr GRANVILLE, afterwards LORD LANSDOWN,

MACHAON sick! in every face we find
His danger is the danger of mankind;
Whose art protecting, nature could expire
But by a deluge, or the general fire.

More lives he saves than perish in our wars;
And, faster than a plague destroys, repairs.
The bold carouser, and th' advent'rous dame,
Nor fear the fever, nor refuse the flame;
Safe in his skill, from all restraint set free,
But conscious shame, remorse, or piety.

Sire of all arts, defend thy darling son,
Restore the man, whose life's so much our own;
On whom, like Atlas, the whole world's reclin'd:
And by preserving Garth, preserve mankind.

A KEY to the VERSES to the AUTHOR.

In the first COPY of VERSES to Dr GARTH upon
the DISPENSARY,

Line 2. Charles Montague, Lord Hallifax.

15. The Lord Somers, formerly Ld. Chancellor.

20. Dennis, a fowr, supercilious, and ill-natured
critic and poetaster.—Dryden, a famous
poet.

In the second COPY of VERSES, written by the late
Colonel CODRINGTON, Governor of the Leeward
Islands,

Line 13. The Ducheſs of Grafton—Cecil's, the late
Counteſs of Salisbury.—The Lady ———
Churchill, one of the Duke of Marlbo-
rough's daughters.

22. John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave, Marquis of
Normanby, and Duke of Buckingham.
The works of this noble peer were pu-
blished in the year 1723, under the inspec-
tion of Mr Pope. Since reprinted in two
volumes 8vo.—Montague, Lord Hal-
lifax.

27. Mirmil, Dr Gibbons.—The City Bard, Sir
Richard Blackmore.

36. Dr Hans.

37. Dr Ratcliffe.

39. Mirmil's, Dr Gibbons.

42. The late William Walth, Esq;

43. The Lord Somers,—The late Earl of Dorset.

THE
DISPENSARY;

A

POEM,



SIX CANTOS.

---Hanc veniam petimusque damusque vicissim.

Hor. de Arte Poet.



T O
ANTHONY HENLEY, Esq;

A Man of your character can no more prevent a dedication than he would encourage one; for merit, like a virgin's blushes, is still most discovered, when it labours most to be concealed.

It is hard, that to think well of you, should be but justice, and to tell you so, should be an offence: Thus, rather than violate your modesty, I must be wanting to your other virtues; and to gratify one good quality, do wrong to a thousand.

The world generally measures our esteem by the ardour of our pretences; and will scarce believe that so much zeal in the heart can be consistent with so much faintness in the expression; but when they reflect on your readiness to do good, and your industry to hide it; on your passion to oblige, and your pain to hear it owned; they will conclude that acknowledgments would be ungrateful to a person who even seems to receive the obligations he confers.

But though I should persuade myself to be silent upon all occasions; those more polite arts, which, till of late, have languished and decayed, would appear under their present advantages, and own you for one of their generous restorers; insomuch, that sculpture now breaths, painting speaks, music ravishes; and as you help to refine our taste, you distinguish your own.

Your approbation of this poem, is the only exception to the opinion the world has of your judgment, that ought to relish nothing so much as what you write yourself; but you are resolved to forget to be a critic, by remembering you are a friend. To say more, would be uneasy to you; and to say less, would be unjust in

Your humble servant.

P R E F A C E.

SINCE this following poem in a manner stole into the world, I could not be surpris'd to find it uncorrect: Though I can no more say I was a stranger to its coming abroad, than that I approved of the publisher's precipitation in doing it: For a hurry in the execution, generally produces a leisure in reflexion; so when we run the fastest, we stumble the ofttest. However, the errors of the printer have not been greater than the candour of the reader: And if I could but say the same of the defects of the author, he would need no justification against the cavils of some furious critics, who, I am sure, would have been better pleas'd if they had met with more faults

Their grand objection is, that the fury Disease is an improper machine to recite characters; and recommend the example of present writers: But though I had the authority of some Greek and Latin poets, upon parallel instances, to justify the design; yet, that I might not introduce any thing that seem'd inconsistent, or hard, I started this objection myself, to a gentleman, very remarkable in this sort of criticism, who would by no means allow that the contrivance was forced, or the conduct incongruous.

Disease is represent'd a fury as well as an Envy: She is imagin'd to be forced, by an incantation, from her recess; and, to be reveng'd on the exorcist, murtheres him with an introduction of several persons eminent in an accomplishment he has made some advances in.

Nor is the compliment less to any great genius mentioned there; since a very fiend, who naturally repines at any excellency, is forced to confess how happily they have all succeeded.

Their next objection is, that I have imitated the *Lutrin* of Monsieur Boileau. I must own I am proud of the imputation; unless their quarrel be, that I have not done it enough: But he that will give himself the trouble of examining, will find I have copied him in nothing but in two or three lines, in the complaint of Moleste, Canto II. and in one in his first Canto; the sense of which line is entirely his, and I could wish were not the only good one in mine.

I have spoke to the most material objections I have heard of, and shall tell these gentlemen, that for ever fault they pretend to find in this poem, I will undertake to shew them two. One of these curious persons does me the honour to say, he approves of the conclusion of it; but I suppose it is upon no other reason, but because it is the conclusion. However, I should not be much concerned not to be thought excellent in an amusement I have very little practised hitherto, nor perhaps ever shall again.

Reputation of this sort is very hard to be got, and very easy to be lost; its pursuit is painful, and its possession unfruitful; nor had I ever attempted any thing in this kind, till finding the animosities among the members of the college of physicians increasing daily, (notwithstanding the frequent exhortations of our worthy president to the contrary,) I was persuaded to attempt something of this nature, and to endeavour to rally some of our disaffected members into a sense of their duty, who have hitherto most obstinately opposed

all manner of union; and have continued so unreasonably refractory, that it was thought fit by the college, to reinforce the observance of the statutes by a bond; which some of them would not comply with, tho' none of them had refused the ceremony of the customary oath; like some that will trust their wives with any body, but their money with none. I was sorry to find there could be any constitution that was not to be cured without poison, and that there should be a prospect of effecting it by a less grateful method than reason and persuasion.

The original of this difference has been of some standing, though it did not break out to fury and excess till the time of erecting the dispensary, being an apartment in the college set up for the relief of the sick poor, and managed ever since with an integrity and disinterest, suitable to so charitable a design.

If any person would be more fully informed about the particulars of so pious a work, I refer him to a treatise, set forth by the authority of the president and censors, in the year 1697. It is called, 'A short account of the proceedings of the college of physicians, London, in relation to the sick poor.' The reader may there not only be informed of the rise and progress of this so public an undertaking, but also of the concurrence and encouragement it met with from the most, as well as the most ancient members of the society, notwithstanding the vigorous opposition of a few men, who thought it their interest to defeat so laudable a design.

The intention of this preface is not to persuade mankind to enter into our quarrels, but to vindicate the author from being censured of taking any indecent li-

berty with a faculty he has the honour to be a member of. If the satire may appear directed at any particular person, it is at such only as are presumed to be engaged in dishonourable confederacies, for mean and mercenary ends, against the dignity of their own profession. But if there be no such, then these characters are but imaginary, and, by consequence, ought to give no body offence.

The description of the battle is grounded upon a feud that happened in the dispensary, betwixt a member of the college, with his retinue, and some of the servants that attended there to dispense the medicines; and is so far real, though the poetical relation be fictitious. I hope no body will think the author too undecently reflecting through the whole, who, being too liable to faults himself, ought to be less severe upon the miscarriages of others. There is a character in this trivial performance, which the town, I find, applies to a particular person: It is a reflection which I should be sorry should give offence; being no more than what may be said of any physician, remarkable for much practice. The killing of numbers of patients is so trite a piece of raillery, that it ought not to make the least impression, either upon the reader, or the person it is applied to; being one that I think in my conscience a very able physician, as well as a gentleman of extraordinary learning. If I am hard upon any one, it is my reader: But some worthy gentlemen, as remarkable for their humanity as their extraordinary parts, have taken care to make him amends for it, by prefixing something of their own.

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confess, those ingenious gentlemen have done me
great honour; but, while they design an imaginary
epic upon me, they have made a real one upon
themselves; and, by saying how much this small per-
formance exceeds some others, they convince the world
how far it falls short of theirs.

H E R E B Y

The Copy of an Instrument, subscribed by
the President, Censor, most of the Elects,
Senior Fellows, Candidates, &c. of the
College of Physicians, in relation to the
Sick Poor.

WHereas the several orders of the College of Physicians, London, for prescribing medicines gratis to the poor sick of the cities of London and Westminster, and parts adjacent, as also proposals made by the said college to the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and Common-council of London, in pursuance thereof, have hitherto been ineffectual, for that no method hath been taken to furnish the poor with medicines for their cure at low and reasonable rates; we therefore, whose names are here under written, fellows and members of the said college, being willing effectually to promote so great a charity, by the counsel and good liking of the president and college declared in their comitia, hereby (to wit, each of us severally and apart, and not the one for the other of us) do oblige ourselves to pay to Dr Thomas Burwell, fellow and elect of the said college, the sum of ten pounds a-piece of lawful money of England, by such proportions, and at such times, as to the major part of the subscribers here shall seem most convenient: Which money, when received by the said Dr Thomas Burwell, is to be by him expended in preparing and delivering medicines to the poor, at their intrinsic value, in such manner, and at such times, and by such orders and directions, as, by the major part of the subscribers

hereto shall, in writing, be hereafter appointed and directed for that purpose. In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this twenty-second day of December 1696.

Tho. Millington, Preses
 Tho. Burwell, Elect. and
 Censor
 Sam. Collins, Elect.
 Edw. Browne, Elect.
 Rich. Torlefs, Elect. and
 Censor
 Edw. Hulse, Elect.
 Tho. Gill, Censor
 Walter Mills
 Dan. Cox
 Henry Sampson
 Thomas Gibson
 Charles Goodall
 Edm. King
 Sam. Garth
 Barnh. Soame
 Denton Nicholas
 Joseph Gaylard
 John Woollaston
 Steph. Hunt
 Oliver Horseman
 Rich. Morton jun.
 David Hamilton
 Hen. Morelli
 Walter Harris
 Williams Briggs
 Th. Colladon

Will. Dawes, Censor
 Jo. Hutton
 Rob. Brady
 Hans Sloane
 Rich. Morton
 John Hawys
 Ch. Harel
 Rich. Robison
 John Bateman
 Martin Lister
 Jo. Colbatch
 Bernard Connor
 W. Cockburn
 J. le Feure
 P. Sylvestre
 Ch. Morton
 Walter Charlton
 Phineas Fowke
 Tho. Alvery
 Rob. Gray
 John Wright
 James Drake
 Sam. Morris
 John Woodward
 ----- Norris
 George Colebrook
 Gideon Harvey.

The design of printing the subscribers names is to shew, that the late undertaking has the sanction of a college-aet; and that it is not a project carried on by five or six members, as those that oppose it would unjustly insinuate.

To Dr GARTH, upon the DISPENSARY.

O H that some genius, whose poetic vein,
 Like M----gue's, cou'd a just piece sustain,
 Wou'd search the Grecian and the Latin store,
 And thence present thee with the purest ore!
 In lasting numbers praise thy whole design,
 And manly beauty of each nervous line:
 Show how your pointed satire's sterling wit
 Does only knaves or formal blockheads hit;
 Who're gravely dull, insipidly serene,
 And carry all their wisdom in their mien:
 Whom thus expos'd, thus strip'd of their disguise,
 None will again admire, most will despise:
 Show in what noble verse Nassau you sing,
 How such a poet's worthy such a king.
 When S----r's charming eloquence you praise,
 How loftily your tuneful voice you raise!
 But my poor feeble Muse is as unfit
 To praise, as imitate what you have writ.
 Artists alone shou'd venture to commend
 What D-----s can't condemn, nor D-----n mend:
 What must, writ with that fire and with that ease,
 The beaux, the ladies, and the critics please.

C. BOYLE.

To my Friend the AUTHOR, desiring my
opinion of his POEM.

ASK me not, friend, what I approve or blame; }
 Perhaps I know not why I like, or damn; }
 I can be pleas'd; and I dare own I am. }
 I read thee over with a lover's eye; }
 Thou hast no faults, or I no faults can spy; }
 Thou art all beauty, or all blindness I. }
 Critics and aged beaux of fancy chaste, }
 Who ne'er had fire, or else whose fire is past, }
 Must judge by rules what they want force to taste. }
 I wou'd a poet, like a mistress, try, }
 Not by her hair, her hand, her nose, her eye; }
 But by some nameless pow'r, to give me joy. }
 The nymph has G--n's, C--l's, C--'s charms, }
 If with resistless fires my soul she warms; }
 With balm upon her lips, and raptures in her arms. }
 Such is thy genius, and such art is thine, }
 Some secret magic works in ev'ry line; }
 We judge not, but we feel the pow'r divine. }
 Where all is just, is beauteous, and is fair, }
 Distinctions vanish of peculiar air : }
 Lost in our pleasure, we enjoy in you }
 Lucretius, Horace, S----d, M----gue. }
 And yet 'tis thought, some critics in this town, }
 By rules to all, but to themselves, unknown, }
 Will damn thy verse, and justify their own. }
 Why, let them damn : Were it not wondrous hard, }
 Facetious M----- and the city B---, }

So near ally'd in learning, wit, and skill,
 Shou'd not have leave to judge, as well as kill?
 Nay, let them write; let them their forces join,
 And hope the motly piece may rival thine:
 Safely despise their malice, and their toil,
 Which vulgar ears alone will reach, and will defile.
 Be it thy gen'rous pride to please the best,
 Whose judgment, and whose friendship is a test.
 With learned H---- thy healing cares be join'd,
 Search thoughtful R-----e to his inmost mind: }
 Unite, restore your arts, and save mankind.
 Whilst all the busy M-----ls of the town
 Envy our health, and pine away their own.
 Whene'er thou would'st a tempting Muse engage,
 Judicious W-----h can best direct her rage.
 To S-----s, and to D----t too submit,
 And let their stamp immortalize thy wit.
 Consenting Phoebus bows, if they approve,
 And ranks thee with the foremost bards above:
 Whilst these of right the deathless laurel send,
 Be it my humble business to commend }
 The faithful, honest man, and the well-natur'd
 friend.

CHR. CODRINGTON.

To my Friend Dr GARTH, the Author of
the DISPENSARY.

TO praise your healing art would be in vain;
The health you give, prevents the poet's pen :
Sufficiently confirm'd is your renown ;
And I but fill the chorus of the town.
That let me wave, and only now admire
The dazzling rays of your poetic fire ;
Which its diffusive virtue does dispense,
In flowing verse, and elevated sense.

The town, which long has swallow'd foolish verse,
Which poetasters every where rehearse,
Will mend their judgment now, refine their taste,
And gather up th' applause they threw in waste.
The play-house sha'nt encourage false sublime,
Abortive thoughts, with decoration-rhyme.

The satire of vile scriblers shall appear
On none, except upon themselves, severe :
While yours condemns the gall of vulgar spite ;
And when you seem to smile the most, you bite.

THO. CHEEK.

To my Friend, upon the DISPENSARY.

AS when the people of the northern zone
Find the approach of the revolving sun,
Pleas'd and reviv'd, they see the new-born light,
And dread no more eternity of night.

Thus we, who lately, as of summer's heat,
Have felt a dearth of poetry and wit,
Once fear'd, Apollo wou'd return no more
From warmer climes to an ungrateful shore :
But you, the fav'rite of the tuneful Nine,
Have made the god in his full lustre shine ;
Our night have chang'd into a glorious day :
And reach'd perfection in your first essay.
So the young eagle that his force would try,
Faces the sun, and tow'rs it to the sky.

Others proceed to art by slow degrees,
Aukward at first, at length they faintly please.
And still, whate'er their first efforts produce,
'Tis an abortive, or an infant Muse.
Whilst yours, like Pallas from the head of Jove,
Steps out full grown, with noblest pace to move.
What antient poets to their subjects owe,
Is here inverted, and this owes to you ;
You found it little, but have made it great ;
They could describe, but you alone create.

Now let your Muse rise with expanded wings,
To sing the fate of empires and of kings ;

30 VERSES TO THE AUTHOR.

Great William's victories she'll next rehearse,
And raise a trophy of immortal verse :
Thus to your art proportion the design,
And mighty things with mighty numbers join ;
A second Namure, or a future Boyne.

}

H. BLOUNT.

THE
DISPENSARY.

CANTO I.

SPEAK, goddess! since 'tis thou that best canst tell,
How antient leagues to modern discord fell;
And why physicians were so cautious grown
Of others lives, and lavish of their own;
How, by a journey to the Elysian plain,
Peace triumph'd, and old time return'd again.

Not far from that most celebrated place,
Where angry * Justice shews her awful face;
Where little villains must submit to fate,
That great ones may enjoy the world in state;
There stands a † dome, majestic to the sight,
And sumptuous arches bear its oval height;
A golden globe plac'd high with artful skill,
Seems, to the distant sight, a gilded pill:
This pile was, by the pious patron's aim,
Rais'd for a use as noble as its frame;
Nor did the learn'd society decline
The propagation of that great design.

* Old Bailly.

† College of physicians.

In all her mazes, Nature's face they view'd,
 And as she disappear'd, * their search pursu'd.
 Wrapt in the shade of night the goddess lies,
 Yet to the learn'd unveils her dark disguise;
 But shuns the gross access of vulgar eyes.

Now she unfolds the faint and dawning strife
 Of infant atoms kindling into life;
 How ductile matter new meanders takes,
 And slender trains of twisting fibres makes;
 And how the viscous seeks a closer tone,
 By just degrees to harden into bone;
 While the more loose flow from the vital urn,
 And in full tides of purple streams return;
 How lambent flames from life's bright lamps arise,
 And dart in emanations through the eyes;
 How from each sluice a gentle torrent pours,
 To slake a fev'rish heat with ambient show'rs;
 Whence their mechanic pow'rs the spirits claim;
 How great their force, how delicate their frame;
 How the same nerves are fashion'd to sustain
 The greatest pleasure and the greatest pain;
 Why bileous juice a golden light puts on,
 And floods of chyle in silver currents run;
 How the dim speck of entity began
 T' extend its recent form, and stretch to man;
 To how minute an origin we owe
 Young Ammon, Caesar, and the great Nassau!

* -----they still pursu'd.

'They find her dubious now, and then as plain;
 Here she's too sparing; there profusely vain.

Why paler looks impetuous rage proclaim,
 And why chill virgins redden into flame;
 Why envy oft transforms with wan disguise;
 And why gay mirth sits smiling in the eyes;
 All ice why Lucrece, or Sempronia fire;
 Why Southwell rages to survive desire;
 Whence Milo's vigour at th' Olympics shown;
 Whence tropes to Finch, or impudence to Sloane*:
 How matter, by the vary'd shape of pores,
 Or ideots frames, or solemn senators.

Hence 'tis we wait the wond'rous cause to find,
 How body acts upon impassive mind:
 How fumes of wine the thinking part can fire,
 Past hopes revive, and present joys inspire:
 Why our complexions oft our soul declare;
 And how the passions in the features are:
 How touch and harmony arise between
 Corporeal figure and a form unseen:
 How quick their faculties the limbs fulfill,
 And act at ev'ry summons of the will:
 With mighty truths, mysterious to descry,
 Which in the womb of distant causes lie.

But now no grand inquiries are descry'd;
 Mean faction reigns where knowledge shou'd preside;
 Feuds are increas'd, and learning laid aside }
 Thus synods oft concern for faith conceal,
 And for important nothings show a zeal:
 The drooping sciences neglected pine,
 And Pacan's beams with fading lustre shine.

* Why Atticus polite; Brutus severe;
 Why Methwin muddy; Montague why clear.

No readers here with hectic looks are found,
Nor eyes in rheum, thro' midnight-watching, drown'd:
The lonely edifice in sweats complains,
That nothing there but sullen silence reigns.

This place, so fit for undisturb'd repose,
The god of sloth for his asylum chose;
Upon a couch of down in these abodes,
Supine with folded arms he thoughtless nods;
Indulging dreams his godhead lull to ease,
With murmurs of soft rills, and whisp'ring trees;
The poppy and each numbing plant dispense
Their drowsy virtue and dull indolence;
No passions interrupt his easy reign;
No problems puzzle his lethargic brain:
But dark oblivion guards his peaceful bed,
And lazy fogs hang ling'ring o'er his head.

As at full length the pamper'd monarch lay,
Batt'ning in ease, and slumb'ring life away,
A spiteful noise his downy chains unties,
Hastes forward, and increases as it flies.

First, some to cleave the stubborn * flint engage,
Till, urg'd by blows, it sparkles into rage:
Some temper lute, some spacious vessels move;
These furnaces erect, and those approve.
Here phials in nice discipline are set;
There gallipots are rang'd in alphabet.
In this place, magazines of pills you spy;
In that, like forage, herbs in bundles lie;
While lifted pestles, brandish'd in the air,
Descend in peals, and civil wars declare;

* The building of the Dispensary.

Loud strokes, with pounding spire, the fabric rend,
And aromatic clouds in spires ascend.

So when the Cyclops o'er their anvils sweat,
And swelling sinews echoing blows repeat;
From the volcano's gross eruptions rise,
And curling sheets of smoke obscure the skies.

The slumb'ring god, amaz'd at this new din,
Thrice strove to rise, and thrice sunk down again.
Listless he stretch'd, and gaping rubb'd his eyes,
Then falter'd thus betwixt half words and sighs :

How impotent a deity am I!

With godhead born, but curs'd, that cannot die!

Through my indulgence, mortals hourly share

A grateful negligence, and ease from care.

Lull'd in my arms; how long have I with-held

The northern monarchs from the dusty field?

How have I kept the British fleet at ease,

From tempting the rough dangers of the seas?

Hibernia owns the mildness of my reign,

And my divinity's ador'd in Spain.

I swains to sylvan solitudes convey,

Where, stretch'd on mossy beds, they waste away

In gentle joys the night, in vows the day.

What marks of wond'rous clemency I've shown,

Some rev'rend worthies of the gown can own.

Triumphant plenty, with a cheerful grace,

Basks in their eyes, and sparkles in their face.

How sleek their looks, how goodly is their mein,

When big they strut behind a double chin!

Each faculty in blandishments they lull,

Aspiring to be venerably dull;

No learn'd debates molest their downy trance,
 Or discompose their pompous ignorance;
 But, undisturb'd, they loiter life away;
 So wither green, and blossom in decay:
 Deep sunk in down, they, by my gentle care,
 Avoid th' inclemencies of morning air,
 And leave to tatter'd crape * the drudgery of pray'r. }

† Urim was civil, and not void of sense,
 Had humour, and a courteous confidence;
 So spruce he moves, so gracefully he cocks;
 The hallow'd rose declares him orthodox;
 He pass'd his easy hours, instead of pray'r,
 In madrigals, and phillising the fair;
 Constant at feasts, and each decorum knew;
 And soon as the desert appear'd, withdrew;
 Always obliging, and without offence,
 And fancy'd for his gay impertinence.
 But see how ill-mistaken parts succeed;
 He threw off my dominion, and would read;
 Engag'd in controversy, wrangled well;
 In convocation-language cou'd excel;
 In volumes prov'd the church without defence,
 By nothing guarded, but by Providence:
 How grace and moderation disagree;
 And violence advances charity.
 Thus writ till none would read, becoming soon
 A wretched scribler, of a rare buffoon.

Mankind my fond propitious pow'r has try'd,
 Too oft to own, too much to be deny'd.

* See Boil. Lut.

† Dr Atterbury, afterwards bishop of Rochester.

And all I ask are shades and silent bow'rs,
 To pass in soft forgetfulness my hours.
 Oft have my fears some distant villa chose,
 O'er their quietus where fat judges dose,
 And lull their cough and conscience to repose:
 Or if some cloister's refuge I implore,
 Where holy drones o'er dying tapers snore:
 The peals of * Nassau's arms these eyes uncloze,
 Mine he molests, to give the world repose.
 That ease I offer with contempt he flies,
 His couch a trench, his canopy the skies.
 Nor climes nor seasons his resolves control,
 Th'aequator has no heat, no ice the pole.
 With arms resistless o'er the globe he flies,
 And leaves to Jove the empire o' the skies.

But as the slothful god to yawn begun,
 He shook off the dull mist, and thus went on †.

* See Boil. Lut.

† Sometimes among the Caspian cliffs I creep,
 Where solitary bats and swallows sleep:
 Or if some cloister's refuge I implore,
 Where holy drones o'er dying tapers snore,
 Still Nassau's arms a soft repose deny,
 Keep me awake, and follow where I fly.

Since he has bless'd the weary world with peace,
 And with a nod has bid Bellona cease;
 I sought the covert of some peaceful cell,
 Where silent shades in harmless raptures dwell;
 That rest might past tranquillity restore,
 And mortal never interrupt me more.

'Twas in this reverend dome I sought repose,
 These walls were that asylum I had chose *.
 Here have I rul'd, long undisturb'd with broils,
 And laugh'd at heroes and their glorious toils.
 My annals are in mouldy mildews wrought,
 With easy insignificance of thought.
 But now some busy enterprising brain
 Invents new fancies to renew my pain,
 And labours to dissolve my easy reign.

With that, the god his darling Phantom calls,
 And from his fault'rings lips this message falls :

Since mortals will dispute my power, I'll try
 Who have the greatest empire, they or I.
 Find Envy out, some prince's court attend;
 Most likely there you'll meet the famish'd fiend †;
 Or where dull critics authors fate foretel;
 Or where stale maids, or meagre eunuchs dwell.
 Tell the bleak fury what new projects reign,
 Among the homicides of Warwick-Lane;
 And what th' event, unless she straight inclines
 To blaste their hopes, and baffle their designs.

More he had spoke, but sudden vapours rise,
 And with their silken cords tie down his eyes.

* Nought underneath this roof but damp's are found;
 Nought heard but drowfy beetles buzzing round.
 Spread cobwebs hide the walls, and dust the floors,
 And midnight silence guards the noiseless doors.

† Or in cabals, or camps, or at the bar;
 Or where ill poets pennyless confer;
 Or in the senate-house at Westminster;

C A N T O II.

S OON as the evening veil'd the mountains heads,
And winds lay hush'd in subterranean beds;
Whilst sick'ning flow'rs drink up the silver dew,
And beaux, for some assembly, dress anew;
The city-saints to pray'rs and play-house haste;
The rich to dinner, and the poor to rest:
Officious Phantom then prepar'd with care
To slide on tender pinions through the air.
Oft he attempts the summit of a rock,
And oft the hollow of some blasted oak;
At length approaching where bleak Envy lay;
The hissing of her snakes proclaim'd the way,
Beneath the gloomy covert of an yew,
That taints the grass with sickly sweats of dew;
No verdant beauty entertains the sight,
But baneful hemlock, and cold aconite;
In a dark grott the baleful haggard lay,
Breathing black vengeance, and infecting day.
But how deform'd, and worn with spiteful woes,
When Accius has applause, Dorfennus shows.
The chearful blood her meagre cheeks forsook,
And basilisks sat brooding in her look;
A bald and blotted toad-stool rais'd her head;
The plumes of boding ravens were her bed;
From her chapp'd nostrils scalding torrents fall;
And her sunk eyes boil o'er in floods of gall;

Volcano's labour thus with inward pains,
Whilst seas of melted ore lay waste the plains.

Around the fiend, in hideous order, fate,
Foul bauling Infamy, and bold Debate:
Gruff Discontent, thro' ignorance mislead,
And clam'rous Faction at her party's head:
Restless Sedition still dissembling fear,
And sly Hypocrisy with pious leer*.

Glouting with sullen spite the fury shook
Her clotted locks, and blasted with each look;
Then tore with canker'd teeth the pregnant scrolls;
Where fame the acts of demi-gods enrolls;
And as the rent records in pieces fell,
Each scrap did some immortal action tell.

This show'd, how fix'd as fate Torquatus stood;
That, the fam'd passage of the Granic flood;
The Julian eagles here their wings display;
And there, like setting stars, the Decii lay;
This does Camillus as a god extol;
That points at Manlius in the Capitol;
How Cocles did the Tiber's surges brave;
How Curtius plung'd into the gaping grave:
Great Cyrus, here, the Medes and Persians join;
And, there, th' immortal battle of the Boyne.

As the light messenger the fury spy'd,
A while his curdling blood forgot to glide;
Confusion on his fainting vitals hung;
And salt'ring accents flutter'd on his tongue:
At length, assuming courage, he convey'd
His errand, then he shrunk into a shade.

* See Dryd. Fab.

The hag lay long revolving what might be
 The blest event of such an embassy :
 Then blazons in dread smiles her hideous form ;
 So lightning gilds the unrelenting storm*.
 Thus she-----Mankind are blest, they riot still
 Unbounded in exorbitance of ill.
 By devastation the rough warrior gains,
 And farmers fatten most when famine reigns ;

* Then she : Alas ! how long in vain have I
 Aim'd at those noble ills the fates deny ?
 Within this isle forever must I find
 Disasters to distract my restless mind ?
 Good Tennyson's celestial piety
 At last has rais'd him to the sacred see.
 Somers does sick'ning equity restore,
 And helpless orphans are oppress'd no more.
 Pembroke to Britain endless blessings brings ;
 He spoke ; and Peace clapp'd her triumphant wings :
 Great Ormond shines illustriously bright
 With blazes of hereditary right.
 The noble ardour of a royal fire
 Inspires the gen'rous breast of Devonshire.
 And Macclesfield is active to defend
 His country with the zeal he loves his friend.
 Like Leda's radiant sons divinely clear,
 Portland and Jersey deck'd in rays appear,
 To gild by turns the Gallic hemisphere.
 Worth in distress is rais'd by Montague ;
 Augustus listens if Maecenas sue :
 And Vernon's vigilance no slumber takes,
 Whilst faction peeps abroad, and anarchy awakes.

For sickly seasons the physicians wait,
 And politicians thrive in broils of state;
 The lover's easy when the fair one sighs;
 And gods subsist not but by sacrifice.

Each other being some indulgence knows;
 Few are my joys, but infinite my woes.
 My present pain Britania's genius wills,
 And thus the fates record my future ills.

A heroine shall Albion's sceptre bear,
 With arms shall vanquish earth, and heav'n with pray'r.
 She on the world her clemency shall show'r,
 And only to preserve, exert her pow'r.
 Tyrants shall then their impious aims forbear,
 And Blenheim's thunder more than *Ætna's* fear*.

Since by no arts I therefore can defeat
 The happy enterprizes of the great,
 I'll calmly stoop to more inferior things,
 And try if my lov'd snakes have teeth or stings.

She said: And straight shrill † Colon's person took,
 In morals loose, but most precise in look.
 Black-friars annals lately pleas'd to call
 Him warden of apothecaries-hall.
 And, when so dignify'd, did not forbear
 That operation which the learn'd declare
 Gives colics ease, and makes the ladies fair.
 In trifling show his tinsel talent lies,
 And form the want of intellects supplies.

* In *Ætna* were forg'd the thunderbolts which
 Jove employ'd against the ambition of the giants.

† Birch an apothecary.

In aspect grand and goodly he appears,
 Rever'd as patriarchs in primæval years.
 Hourly his learn'd impertinence affords
 A barren superfluity of words*.

The patient's ears remorseless he assails,
 Murders with jargon where his med'cine fails.

The fury thus assuming Colon's grace,
 So slung her arms, so shuff'd in in her pace.
 Onward she hastens to the fam'd abodes,
 Where † Horoscope invokes th' infernal gods;
 And reach'd the mansion where the vulgar run,
 For ruin throng, and pay to be undone.

This visionary various projects tries,
 And knows, that to be rich is to be wise.
 By useful observations he can tell
 The sacred charms that in true sterling dwell :
 How gold makes a patrician of a slave,
 A dwarf an Atlas, a Therfites brave.
 It cancels all defects, and in their place
 Finds sense in Brownlow, charms in lady ‡ Grace :
 It guides the fancy and directs the mind :
 No bankrupt ever found a fair one kind.

So truly Horoscope its virtues knows,
 To this lov'd idol 'tis alone he bows;
 And fancies such bright heraldry can prove,
 The vile plebeian but the third from Jove.

* In haste he strides along to recompense
 The want of business with its vain pretence.

† Houghton an apothecary.

‡ Lady Grace Pierpoint.

Long has he been of that amphibious fry,
Bold to prescribe, and busy to apply.
His shop the gazing vulgar's eyes employs
With foreign trinkets, and domestic toys :
Here mummies lay most reverently stale,
And there, the tortoise hung her coat of mail ;
Not far from some huge shark's devouring head
The flying fish their finny pinions spread :
Aloft in rows large poppy heads were strung,
And near, a scaly alligator hung :
In this place, drugs in musty heaps decay'd ;
In that, dry'd bladders and drawn teeth were laid.

An inner-room receives the num'rous shoals
Of such as pay to be reputed fools.
Globes stand by globes, volumes on volumes lie ;
And planetary schemes amuse the eye.
The sage, in velvet chair, here lolls at ease,
To promise future health for present fees.
Then, as from tripod, solemn shams reveals,
And what the stars know nothing of, foretells.

One asks how soon Panthea may be won,
And longs to feel the marriage-fetters on :
Others, convinc'd by melancholy proof,
Inquire when courteous fates will strike 'em off.

Some by what means they may redress their wrong,
When fathers the possession keep too long.
And some would know the issue of their cause,
And whether gold can folder up its flaws.
Poor pregnant Lais his advice would have,
To lose by art what fruitful nature gave ;
And Portia old in expectation grown,
Laments her barren curse, and begs a son.

Whilst Iris his cosmetic wash would try,
 To make her bloom revive, and lovers die.
 Some ask for charms, and others philters chuse,
 To gain Corinna, and their quartans lose.
 Young Hylas, botch'd with stains too foul to name,
 In cradle here renews his youthful frame :
 Cloy'd with desire, and surfeited with charms,
 A hot-house he prefers to Julia's arms.
 And old Lucullus would th' arcanum prove
 Of kindling in cold veins the sparks of love.

Bleak Envy these dull frauds with pleasure sees,
 And wonders at the senseless mysteries.
 In Colon's voice she thus calls out aloud
 On Horoscope environ'd by the crowd.

Forbear, forbear, thy vain amusements cease,
 Thy woodcocks from their gins a while release ;
 And to that dire misfortune listen well,
 Which thou shou'dst fear to know, or I to tell.
 'Tis true, thou ever wast esteem'd by me
 The great Alcides of our company.
 When we with noble scorn resolv'd to ease
 Ourselves from all parochial offices ;
 And to our wealthier patients left the care,
 And draggled dignity of scavenger ;
 Such zeal in that affair thou didst express,
 Nought cou'd be equal but the great success.
 Now call to mind thy gen'rous prowess past,
 Be what thou shoud'st, by thinking what thou wast :
 The faculty of Warwick-Lane design,
 If not to storm, at least to undermine.
 Their gates each day ten thousand night-caps croud,
 And mortars utter their attempts aloud.

If they should once unmask our mystery,
 Each nurse, ere-long, wou'd be as learn'd as we;
 Our art expos'd to ev'ry vulgar eye,
 And none, in complaisance to us, wou'd die.
 What if we claim their right t' assassinate,
 Must they needs turn apothecaries straight?
 Prevent it, gods! all stratagems we try,
 To croud with new inhabitants your sky.
 'Tis we who wait the destinies command,
 To purge the troubled air, and weed the land.
 And dare the college insolently aim
 To equal our fraternity in fame?
 Then let crabs-eyes with pearl for virtue try,
 Or Highgate-hill with lofty Pindus vie;
 So glow-worms may compare with Titan's beams,
 And Hare-court pump with Aganippe's streams.

Our manufactures now they meanly sell,
 And their true value treacherously tell:
 Nay, they discover too, their spite is such,
 That health, than crowns more valued, cost not much †;
 While we must steer our conduct by these rules,
 To cheat as tradesmen, or to starve as fools.

At this fam'd Horoscope turn'd pale, and straight
 In silence tumbl'd from his chair of state;
 The crowd in great confusion sought the door,
 And left the Magus fainting on the floor.
 Whilst in his breast the fury breath'd a storm;
 Then sought her cell, and re-assum'd her form.

† Whilst we, at our expence, must persevere,
 And, for another world, be ruin'd here.

Thus from the sore altho' the insect flies,
It leaves a brood of maggots in disguise.

Officious Squirt in haste forsook his shop,
To succour the expiring Horoscope.

Oft he essay'd the Magus to restore,

By salt of succinum's prevailing pow'r;

Yet still supine the solid lumber lay,

An image of scarce animated clay ;

'Till fates, indulgent when disasters call,

By Squirt's nice hand apply'd an urinal;

The wight no sooner did the stream receive,

But rous'd, and blest's'd the stale restorative.

The springs of life their former vigour feel ;

Such zeal he had for that vile utensil.

So when the great Pelides, Thetis found,

He knew the sea-weed scent, and th' azure goddess own'd.

C A N T O III.

ALL night the sage in pensive tumults lay,
 Complaining of the slow approach of day;
 Oft turn'd him round, and strove to think no more
 Of what shrill Colon said the day before.
 Cowslips and poppies o'er his eyes he spread,
 And Salmon's works he laid beneath his head.
 But those bless'd opiates still in vain he tries,
 Sleep's gentle image his embraces flies:
 Tumultuous cares lay rolling in his breast,
 And thus his anxious thoughts the sage express'd.
 Oft has this planet roll'd around the sun,
 Since to consult the skies I first begun:
 Such my applause, so mighty my success,
 Some granted my predictions more than guess.
 But, doubtful as I am, I'll entertain
 This faith, there can be no mistake in gain;
 For the dull world most honour pay to those
 Who on their understanding most impose.
 First man creates, and then he fears the elf;
 Thus others cheat him not, but he himself:
 He loaths the substance, and he loves the show;
 You'll ne'er convince a fool, himself is so:
 He hates realities, and hugs the cheat;
 And still the only pleasure's the deceit.
 So meteors flatters with a dazzling dye,
 Which no existence has, but in the eye.
 As distant prospects please us, but when near,
 We find but desert rocks, and fleeting air;

From stratagem to stratagem we run,
And he knows most, who latest is undone.

Mankind one day serene and free appear;
The next, they're cloudy, sullen, and severe :
New passions, new opinions still excite,
And what they like at noon, they leave at night.
They gain with labour what they quit with ease,
And health, for want of change, becomes disease.
Religion's bright authority they dare,
And yet are slaves to superstitious fear.

They counsel others, but themselves deceive,
And tho' they're cozen'd still, they still believe.

So false their censure, fickle their esteem ;
This hour they worship, and the next blaspheme.

Shall I then, who with penetrating sight,
Inspect the springs that guide each appetite ;
Who with unfathom'd searches hourly pierce
The dark recesses of the universe ;
Be aw'd, if puny emmets wou'd oppress;
Or fear their fury, or their name caress ?
If all the fiends that in low darkness reign,
Be not the fictions of a sickly brain,
That project, the * Dispensary they call,
Before the moon can blunt her horns, shall fall.

With that a glance from mild Aurora's eyes
Shoots thro' the crystal kingdoms of the skies ;
The savage kind in forests cease to roam,
And sots, o'ercharg'd with nauseous loads, reel home :
Drums, trumpets, hautboys, wake the slumbring pair ;
Whilst bridegroom sighs, and thinks the bride less fair.

* Medicines made up there, for the use of the poor.

Light's chearful smiles o'er th' azure west are spread;
 And Mifs from inns o' court bolts out unpaid.
 The sage, transported at th' approaching hour,
 Imperiously thrice thunder'd on the floor;
 Officious Squirt that moment had access;
 His trust was great, his vigilance no less.
 To him thus Horoscope :

My kind companion in this dire affair,
 Which is more light, since you assume a share;
 Fly with what haste you us'd to do of old,
 When Clyster was in danger to be cold :
 With expedition on the beadle call,
 To summon all the company to th' hall.

Away the friendly coadjutor flies,
 Swift as from phial steams of harts-horn rise.
 The Magus in the int'rim mumbles o'er
 Vile terms of art to some infernal pow'r,
 And draws mysterious circles on the floor :
 But from the gloomy vault no glaring spright
 Ascends, to blast the tender bloom of light.
 No mystic sounds from hell's detested womb,
 In dusky exhalations upwards come.
 And now to raise an altar he decrees,
 To that devouring harpy call'd Disease :
 Then flow'rs in canisters he hastes to bring,
 The wither'd product of a blighted spring.
 With cold solanum from the Pontic shore,
 The roots of mandrake and black hellebore,
 The griper fenna, and the puker rue,
 The sweetner sassafras are added too ;
 And on the structure next he heaps a load
 Of sulphur, turpentine, and mastic wood :

Gums, fossils too the pyramid increas'd ;
A mummy next, once monarch of the east.

Then from the compter he takes down the file,
And with prescriptions lights the solemn pile.

Foebly the flames on clumsy wings aspire,
And smoth'ring fogs of smoke benight the fire.
With sorrow he beheld the sad portent;
Then to the hag these orisons he sent.

Disease ! thou ever most propitious pow'r,
Whose kind indulgence we discern each hour * :
Thou well canst boast thy num'rous pedigree,
Begot by Sloth, maintain'd by Luxury.
In gilded palaces thy prowess reigns,
But flies the humble sheds of cottage-swains.
'To you such might and energy belong,
You nip the blooming, and unnerve the strong.
'The purple conqueror in chains you bind,
And are to us your vassals only kind.

If, in return, all diligence we pay
To fix your empire, and confirm your sway,
Far as the weekly bills can reach around,
From Kent-street end to fam'd St Giles's pond ;
Behold this poor libation with a smile,
And let auspicious light break through the pile.

He spoke ; and on the pyramid he laid
Bay leaves and vipers hearts, and thus he said :
As these consume in this mysterious fire,
So let the curs'd Dispensary † expire.

* Thou that would'st lay whole states and regions waste,
Sooner than we thy cormorants should fast.

† See the allusion. Theoc. Pharm.

And as those crackle in the flames, and die,
 So let its vessels burit, and glasses fly.
 But a sinister cricket straight was heard,
 The altar fell, the off'ring disappear'd.
 As the fam'd wight the omen did regret,
 Squirt brought the news the company was met.

Nigh where Fleet-ditch descends in sable streams,
 To wash his sooty naiads in the Thames,
 There stands a † structure on a rising hill,
 Where tyros take their freedom out to kill.
 Some pictures in these dreadful shambles tell,
 How, by the Delian god, the Pithon fell;
 And how Medea did the philter brew,
 That cou'd in Jafon's veins young force renew;
 How mournful ‡ Myrrah for her crimes appears,
 And heals hysteric matrons still with tears;
 How Mentha and Althea, nymphs no more,
 Revive in sacred plants, and health restore;
 How sanguine swains their am'rous hours repent,
 When pleasure's past, and pains are permanent;
 And how frail nymphs, oft by abortion, aim
 To lose a substance, to preserve a name.

Soon as each member in his rank was plac'd,
 Th' assembly || Diasenna thus address'd.

My kind confed'rates, if my poor intent,
 As 'tis sincere, had been but prevalent,
 We here had met on some more safe design,
 And on no other bus'ness but to dine;

† Apothecary's Hall. ‡ See Ovid Met.
 || Gilstorp, an apothecary.

The faculty had still maintain'd their sway,
 And int'rest then had bid us but obey :
 This only emulation we had known,
 Who best cou'd fill his purse, and thin the town.
 But now from gath'ring clouds destruction pours,
 Which ruins with mad rage our halcyon hours :
 Mists from black jealousies the tempest form,
 Whilst late divisions reinforce the storm.
 Know, when these feuds, like those at law, were past,
 The winners will be losers at the last.
 Like heroes in sea-fights, we seek renown,
 To fire some hostile ship, we burn our own.
 Whoe'er throws dust against the wind, descries
 He throws it, in effect, but in his eyes.
 That juggler which another's slight will show,
 But teaches how the world his own may know.

Thrice happy were those golden days of old,
 When dear as Burgundy ptisans were sold ;
 When patients chose to die with better will,
 Than breathe, and pay the apothecary's bill :
 And cheaper than for our assistance call,
 Might go to Aix or Bourbon, spring and fall *.
 Then priests increas'd, and piety decay'd ;
 Churchmen the church's purity betray'd ;
 Their lives and doctrine slaves and atheists made.

* But now late jars our practices detect,
 For mines, when once discover'd, lose th' effect.
 Dissensions, like small streams, are first begun,
 Scarce seen they rise, but gather as they run.
 So lines that from their parallel decline,
 More they advance, the more they still disjoin.

The laws were but the hireling judge's sense;
 Juries were sway'd by venal evidence.
 Fools were promoted to the council-board,
 Tools to the bench, and bullies to the sword.
 Pensions in private were the senate's aim;
 And patriots for a place abandon'd fame.

But now no influencing art remains;
 For Somers has the seal, and Nassau reigns:
 And we, in spite of our resolves, must bow,
 And suffer by a reformation too.
 For now late jars our practices detect,
 And mines, when once discover'd, lose effect.
 Dissensions, like small streams, are first begun,
 Scarce seen they rise, but gather as they run:
 So lines that from their parallel decline,
 More they proceed, the more they still disjoin.
 'Tis therefore my advice, in haste we send,
 And beg the faculty to be our friend;
 Send swarms of patients, and our quarrels end.
 So awful beadles, if the vagrant treat,
 Straight turn familiar, and their fasces quit.
 In vain we but contend; that planet's pow'r
 Those vapours can disperse it rais'd before.

As he prepar'd the mischief to recite,
 Keen † Colocynthus paus'd and foam'd with spite:
 Sour ferments on his shining surface swim,
 Work up to froath, and bubble o'er the brim.
 Not beauties fret so much, if freckles come,
 Or nose should redden in the drawing-room:

† Dare, an apothecary.

Or lovers that mistake th' appointed hour;
 Or in the lucky minute want the pow'r.
 Thus he-----Thou scandal of great Paeon's art!
 At thy approach the springs of nature start,
 The nerves unbrace: Nay, at the sight of thee,
 A scratch turns cancer, itch a leprosy.
 Could'st thou propose, that we, the friends of fates,
 Who fill church-yards, and who unpeople states,
 Who baffle Nature, and dispose of lives,
 Whilst † Ruffel, as we please, or starves, or thrives,
 Shou'd e'er submit to their despotic will,
 Who out o' consultation scarce can kill?
 The tow'ring Alps shall sooner sink to vales,
 And leeches in your glasses swell to whales;
 Or Norwich trade in instruments of steel,
 And Bremingham in stuffs and druggets deal;
 Allys at Wapping furnish us new modes,
 And Monmouth-street Versailles with riding-hoods;
 The sick to th' Hundreds in pale throngs repair,
 And change the Gravel-pits for Kentish air.
 Our properties must on our arms depend;
 'Tis next to conquer, bravely to defend.
 'Tis to the vulgar death too harsh appears;
 The ill we feel is only in our fears.

To die is landing on some silent shore,
 Where billows never break nor tempests roar;
 Ere well we feel the friendly stroke, 'tis o'er.
 The wise through thought th' insults of death defy;
 The fools, through blest'd insensibility:

† A celebrated undertaker of funerals.

'Tis what the guilty fear, the pious crave;
Sought by the wretch, and vanquish'd by the brave:
It eases lovers, sets the captive free;
And, though a tyrant, offers liberty.

Sound but to arms, the foe shall soon confess
Our force increases, as our funds grow less;
And what requir'd such industry to raise,
We'll scatter into nothing as we please.
Thus, they'll acknowledge, to annihilate
Shews no less wond'rous pow'r than to create.
We'll raise our num'rous cohorts, and oppose
The feeble forces of our pigmy foes;
Legions of quacks shall join us on the place,
From great Kirleus down to Doctor Case.
Though such vile rubbish sink, yet we shall rise;
Directors still secure the greatest prize:
Such poor supports serve only like a stay;
The tree once fix'd, its rest is torn away.

So patriots, in time of peace and ease,
Forget the fury of the late disease;
On dangers past serenely think no more,
And curse the hand that heal'd the wound before.

Arm therefore, gallant friends, 'tis Honour's call;
Or let us boldly fight, or bravely fall.

To this the session seem'd to give consent,
Much lik'd the war, but dreaded much th' event.
At length, the growing diff'rence to compose,
Two brothers, call'd * Ascarides, arose.
Both had the volubility of tongue,
In meaning faint, but in opinion strong.

* The Pearces, apothecaries.

To speak they both assum'd a like pretence;
The elder gain'd his just pre-eminence.

Thus he: 'Tis true, when privilege and right
Are once invaded, honour bids us fight.

But, ere we once engage in honour's cause,
First know what honour is, and whence it was.

Scorn'd by the base, 'tis courted by the brave,
The hero's tyrant, and the coward's slave.

Born in the noisy camp, it lives on air,
And both exists by hope and by despair.

Angry when'er a moment's ease we gain,
And reconcil'd at our returns of pain.

It lives, when in death's arms the hero lies:
But when his safety he consults, it dies.

Bigotted to this idol, we disclaim
Rest, health, and ease, for nothing but a name.

Then let us, to the field before we move,
Know if the gods our enterprize approve.

Suppose th' unthinking faculty unveil
What we, through wiser conduct, would conceal:

Is't reason we should quarrel with the glass
That shews the monstrous features of our face?

Or grant some grave pretenders have of late
Thought fit an innovation to create;

Soon they'll repent what rashly they begun:
Though projects please, projectors are undone.

All novelties must this success expect,
When good, our envy; and when bad, neglect*;

* If things of use were valu'd, there had been
Some work-house where the monument is seen.

If reason cou'd direct, ere now each gate
Had borne some trophy of triumphal state.
Temples had told how Greece and Belgia owe
Troy and Namur to Jove and to Nassau.

Then, since no veneration is allow'd
Or to the real, or the appearing good ;
The project that we vainly apprehend,
Must, as it blindly rose, as vilely end.
Some members of the faculty there are,
Who int'rest prudently to oaths prefer.
Our friendship with feign'd airs they poorly court,
And boast their politics are our support.
Then we'll consult about this enterprize,
And boldly execute what they advise.

But from below, while such resolves they took,
Some aurum fulminans the * fabric shook.
The champions, daunted at the crack, retreat,
Regard their safety, and their rage forget.

So when at Bathos earth's big offspring strove
To scale the skies, and wage a war with Jove;
Soon as the afs of old Silenus bray'd,
The trembling rebels in confusion fled.

* The room the apothecaries meet in is over the laboratory.

C A N T O IV.

NOT far from that frequented theatre,
 Where wand'ring punks each night at five repair;
 Where purple emperors in buskins tread,
 And rule imaginary worlds for bread;
 Where Bentley, by old writers, wealthy grew,
 And Briscoe lately was undone by new:

There triumphs a physician of renown,
 To none, but such as trust in health, unknown.
 None e'er was plac'd more fitly to impart
 His known experience, and his healing art.
 When Burges's deafens all the list'ning press
 With peals of most seraphic emptiness;
 Or when mysterious Freeman mounts on high,
 To preach his parish to a lethargy;
 This Æsculapius waits hard by, to ease
 The martyrs of such Christian cruelties.

Long has this darling quarter of the town
 For lewdness, wit, and gallantry been known.
 All sorts meet here, of whatsoe'er degree,
 To blend and juggle into harmony.
 The critics each advent'rous author scan,
 And praise or censure as they like the man.
 The weeds of writings for the flow'rs they cull;
 So nicely tasteless, so correctly dull!
 The politicians of Parnassus prate,
 And poets canvass the affairs of state;

The cits ne'er talk of trade and stock, but tell
 How Virgil writ, how bravely Turnus fell.
 The country-dames drive to Hippolito's,
 First find a spark, and after lose a nose.
 The lawyer for lac'd coat the robe does quit,
 He grows a madman, and then turns a wit.
 And in the cloister penfive Strephon waits,
 Till Chloe's hackney comes, and then retreats;
 And if th' ungen'rous nymph a shaft lets fly,
 More fatally than from a sparkling eye,
 * Mirmillo, that fam'd opifer, is nigh.

The trading tribe oft thither throng to dine,
 And want of elbow-room supply in wine.
 Cloy'd with variety they surfeit there,
 Whilst the wan patients on thin gruel fare.
 'Twas here the champions of the party met,
 Of their heroic enterprise to treat.

Each hero a tremendous air put on,
 And stern Mirmillo in these words begun :
 'Tis with concern, my friends, I meet you here;
 No grievance you can know, but I must share.
 'Tis plain, my int'rest you've advanc'd so long,
 Each see, though I was mute, wou'd find a tongue.
 And, in return, though I have strove to rend
 Those statutes, which on oath I should defend;
 Such arts are trifles to a gen'rous mind:
 Great services as great returns shou'd find.
 And you'll perceive, this hand, when glory calls,
 Can brandish arms as well as urinals.

* Dr Guibbons.

Oxford, and all her passing bells can tell,
By this right arm what mighty numbers fell.
Whilst others meanly ask'd whole months to stay,
I oft dispatch'd the patient in a day :
With pen in hand I push'd to that degree,
I scarce had left a wretch to give a fee.
Some fell by laudanum, and some by steel,
And death in ambush lay in ev'ry pill.
For, save or slay, this privilege we claim,
Tho' credit suffers, the reward's the same.

What though the art of healing we pretend,
He that designs it least is most a friend.
Into the right we err, and must confess
To oversights we often owe success.
Thus Bessus got the battle in the play ;
His glorious cowardice restor'd the day.
So the fam'd Grecian piece ow'd its desert
To chance, and not the labour'd strokes of art.

Physicians, if they're wise, should never think
Of any arms, but such as pen and ink :
But th' enemy, at their expence, shall find,
When honour calls, I'll scorn to stay behind.

He said ; and seal'd th' engagement with a kiss,
Which was return'd by younger Ascaris ;
Who thus advanc'd : Each word, Sir, you impart,
Has something killing in it, like your art.
How much we to your boundless friendship owe,
Our files can speak, and your prescriptions show.
Your ink descends in such excessive show'rs,
'Tis plain you can regard no health but ours.
Whilst poor pretenders puzzle o'er a case,
You but appear, and give the coup de grace.

O that near * Xanthus' banks you had but dwelt,
 When Ilium first Achaian fury felt,
 The horned river then had curs'd in vain
 Young Peleus' arm, that choak'd his stream with slain.
 No trophies you had left for Greeks to raise;
 Their ten years toil you'd finish'd in ten days.
 Fate smiles on your attempts, and when you list,
 In vain the cowards fly, or brave resist.
 Then let us arm; we need not fear success;
 No labours are too hard for Hercules.
 Our military ensigns we'll display;
 Conquest pursues, where courage leads the way.

To this design shrill † Querpo did agree,
 A zealous member of the faculty;
 His fire's pretended pious steps he treads,
 And where the doctor fails, the saint succeeds.
 A conventicle flesh'd his greener years,
 And his full age the righteous rancour shares.
 Thus boys hatch game-eggs under birds of prey,
 To make the fowl more furious for the fray.

Slow ‡ Carus next discover'd his intent,
 With painful pauses, mutt'ring what he meant.
 His sparks of life, in spite of drugs, retreat,
 So cold, that only calentures can heat.
 In his chill veins the sluggish puddle flows,
 And loads with lazy fogs his sable brows.
 Legions of lunatics about him press,
 His province is lost reason to redress.

* See Hom. ii.

† Dr Howe.

‡ Dr Tyson.

So when perfumes their fragrant scent give o'er,
Nought can their odour, like a jakes, restore.
When for advice the vulgar throng, he's found
With lumber of vile books besieged around.
The gazing throng acknowledge their surprise,
And, deaf to reason, still consult their eyes,
Well he perceives the world will often find,
To catch the eye, is to convince the mind.
Thus a weak state, by wise distrust inclines
To num'rous stores, and strength in magazines,
So fools are always most profuse of words,
And cowards never fail of longest swords.
Abandon'd authors here a refuge meet,
And from the world to dust and worms retreat!
Here dregs and sediment of auctions reign,
Refuse of fairs, and gleanings of Duck-lane.
And up these walls much Gothic lumber climbs,
With Swift philosophy and Runic rhimes.
Hither, retriev'd from cooks and grocers, come
Mede's works entire, and endless reams of Brome.
Where would the long-neglected Collins fly,
If bounteous Carus shou'd refuse to buy?
But each vile scribbler's happy on this score;
He'll find some Carus still to read him o'er.
Nor must we the obsequious * Umbra spare,
Who soft by nature, yet declar'd for war.
But, when some rival pow'r invades a right,
Flies set on flies, and turtles turtles fight.
Else courteous Umbra to the last had been
Demurely meek, insipidly serene.

* Dr. Gould.

† With him, the present still some virtues have,
The vain are sprightly, and the stupid, grave.
The slothful, negligent; the foppish, neat.
The lewd are airy, and the sly discreet;
A wren an eagle, a baboon a beau.

† Colt a Lycurgus, and a Phœcian § Rowe.

Heroic ardour now th' assembly warms,
Each combatant breathes nothing but alarms.

For future glory, while the scheme is laid,
Fam'd Horoscope thus offers to dissuade;

Since of each enterprise th' event's unknown,
We'll quit the sword and hearken to the gown.

Nigh lives || Vagellius, one reputed long
For strength of lungs, and pliancy of tongue.

For fees, to any form he moulds a cause,
The worst has merits, and the best has flaws.

Five guineas make a criminal to day,
And ten t - narrow wipe the stain away.

Whatever he affirms is undeny'd.

Milo's the lecher, Clodio's th' homicide.

Cato pernicious, Catiline a faint,

Orford suspected, Duncomb innocent.

To law then, friends, for 'tis by fate decreed,

Vagellius, and our money, shall succeed.

Know, when I first invok'd disease by charms

To prove propitious to our future arms,

Ill omens did the sacrifice attend,

Nor wou'd the Sibyl from her grot ascend.

† See the Imitation, Hor. sat. 3.

† Sir H. Dutton Colt. § Mr Anthony Rowe.

|| Sir T. Powis.

As Horoscope urg'd farther to be heard,
He thus was interrupted by a * Bard.

In vain your magic mysteries you use,
Such sounds the Sibyl's sacred ears abuse.
These lines the pale divinity shall raise,
Such is the pow'r of sound, and force of lays.

† Arms meet with arms, fauchions with fauchions
ons clash,
And sparks of fire struck out from armour flash;
Thick clouds of dust contending warriors raise;
† And hideous war o'er all the region brays.
Some raging ran with huge Herculean clubs,
Some massy balls of brass, some mighty tubs
Of cinders bore. -----
§ Naked and half-burnt hills with hideous wreck
Affright the skies, and fry the ocean's back.*

As he went rumbling on, the fury straight
Crawl'd in, her limbs cou'd scarce support her weight.
A rueful rag her meagre forehead bound,
And faintly her furr'd lips these accents sound.

Mortal, how dar'st thou with such lines address
My awful feat, and trouble my recess?
In Essex marshy hundreds is a cell,
Where lazy fogs and drizzling vapours dwell:
Thither raw damps on drooping wings repair,
And shiv'ring quartans shake the sickly air.
There, when fatigu'd, some silent hours I pass,
And substitute physicians in my place.

* Sir Richard Blackmore. † King Arthur, p. 307.

† King Arthur, p. 327. § Prince Arthur, p. 130.

Then dare not, for the future, once rehearse
 The dissonance of such untuneful verse.
 But in your lines let energy be found,
 And learn to rise in sense, and sink in sound.
 Harsh words, tho' pertinent, uncouth appear;
 None please the fancy, which offend the ear.
 In sense and numbers if you wou'd excell,
 Read Wycherly, consider Dryden well.
 In one, what vig'rous turns of fancy shine!
 In th' other, firens warble in each line.
 If Dorset's sprightly muse but touch the lyre,
 The smiles and graces melt in soft desire,
 And little loves confess their am'rous fire ‡.
 The gentle Isis claims the ivy crown,
 To bind th' immortal brows of Addison.
 As tuneful Congreve tries his rural strains,
 Pan quits the woods, the list'ning fawns the plains;
 And Philomel, in notes like his, complains.
 And Britain, since * Pausanias was writ,
 Know Spartan virtue, and Athenian wit.
 When Stepney paints the godlike acts of kings,
 Or, what Apollo dictates, Prior sings.
 The banks of Rhine a pleas'd attention show,
 And silver Sequana forgets to flow.
 Such just examples carefully read o'er,
 Slide without falling, without straining, soar.
 Oft tho' your strokes surprise, you should not chuse
 A theme so mighty for a virgin Muse.

‡ The Tiber now no gentle Gallus sees,
 But smiling Thames enjoys her Normanbys.

* Pausanias, written by Mr Norton.

Long did † Apelles his fam'd piece decline,
His Alexander was his last design.

'Tis Montague's rich vein alone must prove;
None but a Phidias should attempt a Jove ‡.

The fury paus'd, till with a frightful sound
A rising whirlwind burst th' unhallow'd ground.

Then she. ——— The deity we Fortune call,
Tho' distant, rules and influences all.

Straight for her favour to her court repair;
Important embassies ask wings of air.

Each wond'ring stood. But Horoscope's great soul,
That dangers ne'er alarm, nor doubts control,
Rais'd on the pinions of the bounding wind,
Out-slew the rack, and left the hours behind.

The ev'ning now with blushes warms the air,
The steer resigns the yoke, the hind his care.

The clouds above with golden edgings glow,
And falling dews refresh the earth below.

The bat with sooty wings flits thro' the grove,
The reeds scarce rustle, nor the aspines move,

And all the feather'd folks forbear their lays of love.
Thro' the transparent region of the skies,

Swift as a wish the missionary flies.

With wonder he surveys the upper air,

And the gay gilded meteors sporting there.

† See Hor. B. 2. Ep. 1. Plin. Plaut. Cic. Ep. Val.
Max.

‡ The fury said; and vanishing from sight,
Cry'd out, to arms; so left the realms of light.
The combatants to th' enterprise consent,
And the next day smil'd on the great event.

How lambent jellies kindling in the night,
 Shoot thro' the aether in a trail of light;
 How rising steams in th' azure fluid blend,
 Or fleet in clouds, or soft in show'rs descend;
 Or if the stubborn rage of cold prevail,
 In flakes they fly, or fall in moulded hail.
 How honey-dews embalm the fragrant morn,
 And the fair oak with luscious sweets adorn.
 How heat and moisture mingle in a mass,
 Or belch in thunder, or in light'ning blaze.
 Why nimble comets strike the eye,
 And bold tornado's bluster in the sky.
 Why a prolific Aura upwards tends,
 Ferments, and in a living show'r descends.
 How vapours hanging on the tow'ring hills
 In breezes sigh, or weep in warbling rills:
 Whence infant winds their tender pinions try,
 And river-gods their thirsty urns supply.
 The wond'ring sage pursues his airy flight,
 And braves the chill unwholesome damps of night;
 He views the tracts where luminaries rove,
 To settle seasons here, and fates above.
 The bleak Arcturus still forbid the seas,
 The stormy Kids, the weeping Hyades;
 The † shining Lyre with strains attracting more
 Heav'n's glitt'ring mansions now than ‡ hell's before;
 Glad Cassiopeia circling in the sky,
 And each fair Churchil of the Galaxy.

† Orpheus's harp made a constellation.

‡ See Manil.

Aurora on Etesian breezes borne,
 With blushing lips breathes out the sprightly morn;
 Each flow'r in dew their short-liv'd empire weeps,
 And Cynthia with her lov'd Endymion sleeps.
 As through the gloom the Magnus cuts his way,
 Imperfect objects tell the doubtful day,
 Dim he discerns majestic Atlas rise,
 And bend beneath the burden of the skies.
 His tow'ring brows aloft no tempests know,
 Whilst light'ning flies, and thunder rolls below.

Distant from hence beyond a waste of plains,
 Proud Teneriff his giant brother reigns;
 With breathing fire his pitchy nostrils glow,
 As from his sides he shakes the fleecy snow.
 Around this hoary prince, from wat'ry beds,
 His subject islands raise their verdant heads;
 The waves so gently wash each rising hill,
 The land seems floating, and the ocean still.

Eternal spring with smiling verdure here
 Warms the mild air, and crowns the youthful year.
 From crystal rocks transparent riv'lets flow;
 The tuberoses ever breathes, and violets blow.
 The vine undress'd her swelling clusters bears,
 The lab'ring hind the mellow olive cheers;
 Blossoms and fruit at once the * citron shows,
 And as she pays, discovers still she owes.
 The orange to her sun her pride displays,
 And gilds her fragrant apples with his rays.
 No blasts e'er discompose the peaceful sky,
 The springs but murmur, and the winds but sigh.

† Wall.

The tuneful swans on gliding rivers float,
 And, warbling dirges, die on ev'ry note.
 Where Flora treads, her Zephyr garlands flings,
 And scatters odours from his purple wings;
 Whilst birds from woodbine bow'rs and jessmine groves
 Chant their glad nuptials, and unenvy'd loves.
 Mild seasons, rising hills, and silent dales,
 Cool grotto's, silver brooks, and flow'ry vales,
 Groves fill'd with balmy shrubs in pomp appear,
 And scent with gales of sweets the circling year.

These happy isles, where endless pleasures wait,
 Are stil'd by tuneful bards——the Fortunate.
 On high, where no hoarse winds nor clouds resort,
 The hoodwink'd goddess keeps her partial court.
 Upon a wheel of † amethyst she sits,
 Gives and resumes, and smiles and frowns by fits.
 In this still labyrinth, around her lie
 Spells, philters, globes, and schemes of palmistry :
 A sigil in this hand the gypsy bears,
 In th' other a prophetic sieve and sheers.

The dame, by divination, knew that soon
 The Magus wou'd appear——and then begun :
 Hail sacred seer! thy embassy I know,
 Wars must ensue, the fates will have it so.
 Dread fates shall follow, and disasters great,
 ‡ Pills charge on pills, and bolus bolus meet :
 Both sides shall conquer, and yet both shall fail :
 The mortar now, and then the urinal.

† This stone reckoned fortunate; see the Hist. of
 Nat. Magic.

‡ See the Allusion, Lucan.

To thee alone my influence I owe;
 Where nature has deny'd, my favours flow.
 'Tis I that give, so mighty is my pow'r,
 Faith to the Jew, complexion to the Moor.
 I am the wretch's wish, the rook's pretence,
 The fluggard's ease, the cockcomb's providence.
 Sir Scrape-quill, once a supple smiling slave,
 Looks lofty now, and insolently grave;
 Builds, settles, purchases, and has each hour
 Caps from the rich, and curses from the poor.
 Spadillio, that at table serv'd o' late,
 Drinks rich Tockay himself, and eats in plate;
 Has levees, villas, mistresses in store,
 And owns the racers which he rubb'd before.

Souls heavenly born, my faithless boons defy;
 The brave is to himself a deity.

Tho' blest Aftrea's gone, some soil remains
 Where fortune is the slave, and merit reigns.

The Tiber boasts his Julian progeny,
 Thames his Nassau, the Nile his Ptolomy.

Iberia, yet for future sway design'd,
 Shall, for a Hesse, a greater Mordaunt find.

Thus † Ariadne in proud triumph rode;
 She lost a ‡ hero, and she found a § god.

† See Steph.

‡ Theseus.

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§ Bacchus.

C A N T O V.

When the still night, with peaceful poppies crown'd,
 Had spread her shady pinions o'er the ground;
 And slumb'ring chiefs of painted triumphs dream,
 While groves and streams are the soft virgin's theme;
 'The surges gently dash against the shore,
 Flocks quit the plains, and galley-slaves the oar;
 Sleep shakes its downy wings o'er mortal eyes,
 Mirmillo is the only wretch it flies:
 He finds no respite from his anxious grief;
 Then seeks from this soliloquy, relief.

Long have I reign'd unrival'd in the town,
 Oppress'd with fees, and deafen'd with renown.
 None e'er cou'd die with due solemnity,
 Unless his passport first was sign'd by me.
 My arbitrary bounty's undeny'd;
 I give reversions, and for heirs provide.
 None cou'd the tedious nuptial state support,
 But I to make it easy, make it short.
 I set the discontented matrons free,
 And ransom husbands from captivity.
 Shall one of such importance then engage
 In noisy riot, and in civil rage?
 No; I'll endeavour straight a peace, and so
 Preserve my character, and person too.

But Discord, that still haunts with hideous mien
 Those dire abodes where Hymen once hath been,

O'er-heard Mirmillo's anguish, then begun
 In peevish actions to express her own.
 Have I so often banish'd lazy Peace
 From her dark solitude, and lov'd recess?
 Have I made South and Sherlock disagree,
 And puzzle truth with learn'd obscurity?
 And does the faithful Ferguson profess
 His ardour still for animosities?
 Have I, Britannia's safety to ensure,
 Expos'd her naked, to be most secure?
 Have I made parties opposite unite
 In monstrous leagues of amicable spite,
 To curse their country, whilst the common cry
 Is freedom, but their aim, the ministry?
 And shall a dastard's cowardice prevent
 The war so long I've labour'd to foment?
 No, 'tis resolv'd, he either shall comply,
 Or I'll renounce my wan divinity.

With that, the hag approach'd Mirmillo's bed,
 And taking Querpo's meagre shape, she said;

At noon of night I hasten, to dispel
 Those tumults in your pensive bosom dwell.
 I dream'd but now I heard your heaving sighs,
 Nay, saw the tears debating in your eyes.
 O that 'twere but a dream! but threats I find
 Lowr in your looks, and rankle in your mind.
 Speak, whence it is this late disorder flows,
 That shakes your soul, and troubles your repose.
 Mistakes in practice scarce cou'd give you pain;
 Too well you know the dead will ne'er complain.

What looks discover, said the homicide,
 Wou'd be a fruitless industry to hide.

My safety first I must consult, and then
I'll serve our suff'ring party with my pen.

All shou'd, reply'd the hag, their talent learn;
The most attempting oft the least discern.
Let Peterborough speak, and Vanbrugh write,
Soft Acon court, and rough Caecinna fight.
Such must succeed; but when th' enervate aim
Beyond their force, they still contend for shame:
Had Colbatch printed nothing of his own,
He had not been the Saffold o' the town.
Asses and owls, unseen, their kind betray,
If these attempt to hoot, or those to bray.
Had Westley never aim'd in verse to please,
We had not rank'd him with our Ogilbys.
Still censures will on dull pretenders fall;
A Codrus shou'd expect a Juvenal.
Ill lines but like ill paintings, are allow'd,
To set off, and to recommend the good.
So diamonds take a lustre from their foyle;
And to a Bently 'tis we owe a Boyle.
Consider well the talent you possess;
To strive to make it more would make it less:
And recollect what gratitude is due,
To those whose party you abandon now.
To them you owe your odd magnificence;
But to your stars your magazine of sense.
Hasp'd in a tombril, aukward have you shin'd,
With one fat slave before, and none behind*.

* But soon what they've exalted they'll discard,
And set up Carus or the city-bard.

Then haste and join your true intrepid friends ;
 Success on vigour and dispatch depends.

Lab'ring in doubts Mirmillo stood, then said,
 'Tis hard to undertake, if gain dissuade ;
 What fool for noisy feuds large fees wou'd leave ?
 Ten harvests more would all I wish for give.

True, man, reply'd the elf ; by choice diseas'd,
 Ever contriving pain, and never pleas'd ;
 A present good they slight, an absent chuse ;
 And what they have, for what they have not, lose.
 False prospects all their true delights destroy ;
 Resolv'd to want, yet lab'ring to enjoy.
 In restless hurries thoughtlessly they live,
 At substance oft unmov'd, for shadows grieve.
 Children at toys, as men at titles, aim ;
 And in effect both covet but the same.
 This Philip's son prov'd in revolving years ;
 And first for rattles, then for worlds shed tears.

The fury spoke, then in a moment fir'd
 The hero's breast with tempests, and retir'd.

In boding dreams Mirmillo spent the night,
 And frightful phantoms danc'd before his sight,
 Till the pale Pleiades clos'd their eyes of light.
 At length gay morn glows in the eastern skies ;
 The larks in raptures thro' the aether rise ;
 The azure mists feud o'er the dewy lawns ;
 The chaunter at his early matins yawns :

Alarm'd at this, the hero courage took,
 And storms of terror threaten'd in his look.
 My dread resolves, he cry'd, I'll straight pursue :
 The fury satisfy'd, in smiles withdrew.

The am'ranth opes its leaves, the lys its bells;
And Progne her complaint of Tereus tells.

As bold Mirmillo the gray dawn descries,
Arm'd cap-a-pe, where honour calls, he flies,
And finds the legions planted at their post;
Where mighty Querpo fill'd the eye the most.
His arms were made, if we may credit fame,
By * Mulciber, the mayor of Bromingham.
Of temper'd stibium the bright shield was cast,
† And yet the work the metal far surpass'd.
A foliage of the vulnerary leaves,
Grav'd round the brim, the wond'ring sight deceives;
Around the centre fate's bright trophies lay,
Probes, saws, incision-knives, and tools to slay:
Emboist upon the field, a battle stood
Of leeches spouting haemorrhoidal blood.
The artist too express'd the solemn state
Of grave physicians at a consult met;
About each symptom how they disagree;
But how unanimous in case of fee.
Whilst each assassin his learn'd colleague tires
With learn'd impertinence, the sick expires.
Beneath this blazing orb bright Querpo shone,
Himself an Atlas, and his shield a moon:
A pestle for his truncheon led the van;
And his high helmet was a closs-stool pan:
His crest an ‡ Ibis, brandishing her beak,

* See the Allusion, Hom. Iliad. B. 18. Virg. Æn. B. 8.

† See Ovid. Met. B. 2.

‡ This bird, according to the ancients, gives itself a clyster with its beak.

And winding in loose folds her spiral neck.
 This, when the young * Querpoides beheld,
 His face in nurse's breast the boy conceal'd;
 Then peep'd, and with th' effulgent helm would play,
 And as the monster gap'd wou'd shrink away.
 Thus sometimes joy prevail'd, and sometimes fear;
 And tears and smiles alternate passions were.

As Querpo towering stood in martial might,
 Pacific Carus sparkled on the right;
 An † Oran outang O'er his shoulders hung,
 His plume confess'd the capon whence it sprung;
 His motly mail scarce cou'd the hero bear,
 Haranguing thus the tribunes of the war.

I am'd chiefs,
 For present triumphs born, design'd for more,
 Your virtue I admire, your valour more;
 If battle be resolv'd, you'll find this hand
 Can deal out destiny, and fate command.
 Our foes in throngs shall hide the crimson plain,
 And their Apollo interpose in vain.
 Tho' gods themselves engage, a ‡ Diomed
 With ease cou'd show a deity can bleed.

But war's rough trade shou'd be by fools profess'd,
 The truest rubbish fills a trench the best.
 Let quinces throttle, and the quartan shake;
 Or dropsies drown, and gouts and colics rack;

* Alluding to Aftyanax. See Hom. II.

† The skin of a dissected baboon called so.

‡ See Hom. II. B. 2.

Let sword and pestilence lay waste, while we
 Wage bloodless wars, and fight in theory.
 Who wants not merit needs not arm for fame;
 The dead I raise, my chivalry proclaim;
 Diseases baffled, and lost health restor'd,
 In fame's bright list my victories record:
 More lives from me their preservation own,
 Than lovers lose if fair Cornelia frown.

Your cures, shrill Querpo cry'd, aloud to tell,
 But wisely your miscarriages conceal.
 Zeno, a priest, in Samothrace of old,
 Thus reason'd with Philopidas the bold;
 Immortal gods you own, but think 'em blind
 To what concerns the state of human kind;
 Either they hear not, or regard not pray'r,
 That argues want of pow'r, and this of care.
 Allow that wisdom infinite must know,
 Pow'r infinite must act; I grant it so:
 Haste straight to Neptune's fane, survey with zeal
 The walls: What then? reply'd the infidel.
 Observe those num'rous throngs in effigy,
 The gods have sav'd from the devouring sea:
 'Tis true, their pictures that escap'd you keep;
 But where are theirs that perish'd in the deep?
 Vaunt now no more the triumph of your skill;
 But, tho' unsee'd, exert your arm, and kill.
 Our scouts have learn'd the posture of the foe;
 In war surprises surest conduct show.

But Fame, that neither good nor bad conceals;
 That Pembroke's worth, and Ormond's valour tells;
 How truth in Burnet, how in Cav'ndish, reigns;
 Varro's magnificence, with Maro's strains;

But how at church and bar all gape and stretch,
 If Winnington plead, or South or Only preach;
 On nimble wings to Warwick-Lane repairs,
 And what the enemy intends declares.
 Confusion in each countenance appear'd;
 A council's call'd; and * Stentor first was hear'd †;
 His lab'ring lungs the throng'd praetorium rent,
 Addressing thus the passive president.

‡ Machaon, whose experience we adore,
 Great as your matchless merit is your pow'r.
 At your approach, the baffled tyrant Death
 Breaks his keen shafts and grinds his clashing teeth.
 To you we leave the conduct of the day;
 What you command your vassals must obey.
 If this dread enterprise you wou'd decline,
 We'll send to treat, and stifle the design.
 But if my arguments had force, we'd try
 To humble our audacious foes, or die ‖.

* Dr. Goodalk.

† True to extremes, yet to dull forms a slave,
 He's always dully gay, or vainly grave.
 With indignation, and a daring air,
 He paus'd awhile, and thus address'd the chair.

‡ Sir Thomas Millington.

‖ What Stentor offer'd was by most approv'd:
 But sev'ral voices sev'ral methods mov'd.
 At length th' advent'rous heroes all agree
 T' expect the foe, and act defensively.
 Into the shop their bold battalions move;
 And what their chief commands the rest approve.

Our spite, they'll find, to their advantage leans;
 The end is good, no matter for the means.
 So modern casuists their talents try,
 Uprightly for the sake of truth to lye.

He had not finish'd, till th' out-guards descry'd
 Bright columns move in formidable pride;
 The passing pomp so dazzled from afar,
 It seem'd a triumph, rather than a war.
 Tho' wide the front, tho' gross the phalanx grew,
 It look'd less dreadful as it nearer drew.

The adverse host for action straight prepare;
 All eager to unveil the face of war.
 Their chiefs lace on their helms, and take the field;
 And to their trusty squire resign the shield:
 To paint each knight, their ardor and alarms,
 Wou'd ask the Muse that sung the frogs in arms.

And now the signal summons to the fray;
 Mock faulchions flash, and paltry ensigns play.
 Their patron god his silver bow-strings twangs;
 Tough harness rustles, and bold armour clangs:
 The piercing caustics ply their spiteful pow'r;
 Emetics ranch, and keen cathartics scour:

Down from the walls they tear the shelves in haste,
 Which on their flank for palisades are plac'd;
 And then, behind the counter rang'd they stand,
 Their front so well secur'd t' obey command.

And now the scouts the adverse host descry;
 Blue aprons in the air for colours fly:
 With unresisted force they urge their way,
 And find the foe embattled in array.

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The deadly drugs in double doses fly ;
And pestles peal a martial symphony.

Now from their levell'd syringes they pour
The liquid volley of a missive show'r.
Not storms of fleet, which o'er the Baltic drive,
Push'd on by northern gusts, such horror give.
Like spouts in southern seas the deluge broke,
And numbers sunk beneath th' impetuous stroke.

So when leviathans dispute the reign
And uncontroll'd dominion of the main ;
From the rent rocks whole coral groves are torn,
And isles of sea-weed on the waves are borne.
Such wat'ry stores from their spread nostrils fly,
'Tis doubtful which is sea, and which is sky.

And now the stagg'ring braves, led by despair,
Advance, and to return the charge prepare.
Each seizes for his shield a spacious scale,
And the brass weights fly thick as show'rs of hail.
Whole heaps of warriors welter on the ground,
With gally-pots and broken phials crown'd ;
Whilst empty jars the dire defeat resound.

Thus when some storm its crystal quarry rends,
And Jove in rattling show'rs of ice descends ;
Mount Athos shakes the forests on his brow,
Whilst down his wounded sides fresh torrents flow,
And leaves and limbs of trees o'erspread the vale
below.

But now, all order lost, promiscuous blows
Confus'dly fall ; perplex'd the battle grows.
From * Stentor's arm a massy opiate flies ;
And straight a deadly sleep clos'd Carus' eyes.

* Dr Goodall against Dr Tyson.

At † Colon great Sertorius buckthorn flung,
 Who with fierce gripes, like those of death, was stung;
 But with a dauntless and disdainful mein
 Hurl'd back steel pills, and hit him on the spleen.
 ‡ Chiron attack'd Talthybius with such might,
 One pass had paunch'd the huge hydropic knight;
 Who straight retreated to evade the wound,
 But in a flood of apozem was drown'd.
 This || Pylas saw, and to the victor said,
 Thou shalt not long survive th' unwieldy dead;
 Thy fate shall follow; to confirm it swore,
 By th' image of Priapus, which he bore:
 And rais'd an § eagle-stone, invoking loud
 On Cynthia, leaning o'er a silver cloud.

Great queen of night, and empress of the seas!
 If faithful to thy midnight mysteries,
 If still observant of my early vows,
 These hands have eas'd the mourning matron's throws,
 Direct this rais'd avenging arm aright;
 So may loud cymbals aid thy lab'ring light.
 He said, and let the pond'rous fragment fly.
 At Chiron, but learn'd Hermes put it by.

Though the haranguing god survey'd the war,
 That day the Muses sons were not his care.
 Two friends, adepts, the Trismegists by name,
 Alike their features, and alike their flame.
 As simpling near fair Tweed each sung by turn,
 The list'ning river would neglect his urn.

† Dr Birch. ‡ Dr Gill against Dr Ridley.
 || Dr Chamberlain. § See Plin.

Those lives they fail'd to rescue by their skill,
 Their * Muse could make immortal with her quill;
 But learn'd enquiries after Nature's state
 Dissolv'd the league, and kindled a debate.
 The one, for lofty labours fruitful known,
 Fill'd magazines with volumes of his own.
 At his once-favour'd friend a tome he threw,
 That from its birth had slept unseen till now;
 Stunn'd with the blow the batter'd bard retir'd,
 Sunk down, and in a simile expir'd.

And now the cohorts shake, the legions ply,
 The yielding flanks confess the victory.
 Stentor undaunted still, with noble rage
 Sprung thro' the battle, *Querpo* to engage.
 Fierce was the onset, the dispute was great,
 Both could not vanquish, neither would retreat;
 Each combatant his adversary mauls,
 With batter'd bed-pans, and stav'd urinals.
 On Stentor's crest the useful crystal breaks,
 And tears of amber gutter'd down his cheeks:
 But whilst the champion, as late rumours tell,
 Design'd a sure decisive stroke, he fell:
 And as the victor hov'ring o'er him stood,
 With arms extended, thus the suppliant su'd.

When honour's lost, 'tis a relief to die;
 Death's but a sure retreat from infamy.
 But to the lost, if pity might be shown,
 Reflect on young *Querpoides* thy son;
 Then pity mine, for such an infant-grace
 Smiles in his eyes, and flatters in his face.

* See Tass.

If he was near, compassion he'd create,
 Or else lament his wretched parent's fate.
 Thine is the glory, and the field is thine;
 To thee the lov'd * Dispens'ry I resign.

At this the victors own such extacies,
 As Memphian priests, if their Osiris sneeze:
 Or champions with Olympic clangor fir'd;
 Or simp'ring prudes with sprightly Nantz inspir'd;
 Or sultans rais'd from dungeons to a crown;
 Or fasting zealots when the sermon's done.

A while the chief the deadly stroke declin'd,
 And found compassion pleading in his mind.
 But whilst he view'd with pity the distress'd,
 He spy'd † Signetur writ upon his breast.
 Then tow'rd's the skies he toss'd his threatening head,
 And fir'd with more than mortal fury, said.

Sooner than I'll from vow'd revenge desist,
 His Holiness shall turn a Quietist;
 Jansenius and the Jesuits agree;
 The inquisition wink at heresy ‡;
 Warm convocations own the church secure,
 And more consult her doctrine than her pow'r.

With that he drew a lancet in his rage,
 To puncture the still supplicating sage.
 But while his thoughts that fatal stroke decreed,
 Apollo interpos'd in form of see.

* See the allusion, Virg. Æn.

† Those members of the college that observe a late statute, are called by the apothecaries Signetur men.

‡ Faith stand unmov'd thro' Stillfleet's defence;
 And Locke for mystery abandon sense.

The chief great Pacan's golden tresses knew,
He own'd the god, and his rais'd arm withdrew.

Thus often at the Temple-stairs we've seen
Two Tritons of a rough athletic mien,
Sourly dispute some quarrel of the flood,
With knuckles bruis'd, and face besmear'd in blood ;
But at the first appearance of a fare,
Both quit the fray, and to their oars repair.

The hero so his enterprise recalls,
His fist unclenches, and the weapon falls.

C A N T O VI.

WHILE the shrill clangor of the battle rings,
 Auspicious Health appear'd on Zephyr's wings;
 She seem'd a cherub most divinely bright,
 More soft than air, more gay than morning light.
 A charm she takes from each excelling fair,
 And borrows Carlisle's shape, and Grafton's air:
 Her eyes like Ranelagh's their beams dispense,
 With Churchill's bloom, and Berkley's innocence.
 On Iris thus the differing * beams bestow
 The dye that paints the wonders of her bow.
 From the fair nymph a vocal music falls,
 As to Machaon thus the goddess calls.

Enough th' achievement of your arms you've shown;
 You seek a triumph you shou'd blush to own.

Haste to th' Elysian-fields, those bless'd abodes,
 Where Harvey sits among the demi-gods :
 Consult that sacred sage, he'll soon disclose
 The method that must mollify these woes.
 Let † Celsus for that enterprise prepare ;
 His conduct to the shades shall be my care.

Aghast the heroes stood, dissolv'd in fear ;
 A form so heav'nly bright they cou'd not bear :
 Celsus alone unmov'd, the sight beheld ;
 The rest in pale confusion left the field.

* See Newt. of Col.

† Dr Bateman.

So when the Pygmies, marshall'd on the plains,
 Wage puny war against th' invading cranes ;
 The puppets to their bodkin spears repair,
 And scatter'd feathers flutter in the air :
 But when the bold imperial bird of Jove
 Stoops on his founding pinions from above,
 Among the brakes the fairy nation crowds,
 And the Strymonian Squadron seeks the clouds.

And now the delegate prepares to go,
 And view the wonders of the realms below ;
 Then takes Amomum for the golden bough.
 Thrice did the goddess with her sacred wand
 The pavement strike ; and straight at her command
 The willing surface opens, and descends
 A deep descent that leads to nether skies.

}

* Hygeia to the silent region tends ;
 And with his heav'nly guide the charge descends.
 Thus Numa, when to hallow'd caves retir'd,
 Was by † Ægeria guarded and inspir'd.
 Within the chambers of the globe they spy
 The beds where sleeping vegetables lie,
 'Till the glad summons of a genial ray
 Unbinds the glebe, and calls them out to day.
 Hence pansies trick themselves in various hew,
 And hence jonquills derive their fragrant dew ;
 Hence the carnation and the bathful rose
 Their virgin blushes to the morn disclose ;

* Health, celebrated by the ancients as a goddess.

† See Ov. Met.

Hence the chaste lily rises to the light,
 Unveils her snowy breasts, and charms the sight;
 Hence arbours are with twining greens array'd,
 T' oblige complaining lovers with their shade;
 And hence on Daphne's laurel forehead grow
 Immortal wreaths for Phoebus and Naffau.

The insects here their lingring trance survive;
 Benumb'd they seem, and doubtful if alive;
 From winter's fury hither they repair,
 And stay for milder skies and softer air.
 Down to these cells obscener reptiles creep,
 Where hateful newts and painted lizards sleep;
 Where shiv'ring snakes the summer solstice wait,
 Unfurl their painted folds, and slide in state.
 Here their new form the numb'd † erucæ hide,
 Their num'rous feet in slender bandage ty'd:
 Soon as the kindling year begins to rise,
 This upstart race their native clod despise,
 And proud of painted wings attempt the skies.

Now those profounder regions they explore,
 Where metals ripen in vast cakes of ore:
 Here, fullen to the sight, at large is spread
 The dull unwieldy mass of lumpish lead;
 There, glimm'ring in their dawning beds, are seen
 The light aspiring seeds of sprightly tin;
 The * copper sparkles right in ruddy streaks,
 And in the gloom betrays its glowing cheeks;
 The silver, then, with bright and burnish'd grace,
 Youth and a blooming lustre in its face,

† See Gedart of caterpillars and butterflies.

* See Yald. on mines.

To th' arms of those more yielding metals lies,
And in the folds of their embraces lies;
So close they cling, so stubbornly retire;
Their love's more violent than the chymist's fire;

Near these the delegate with wonder spies
Where floods of living silver serpentise;
Where richest metals their bright looks put on,
And golden streams through amber channels run,
Where light's gay god descends to ripen gems,
And lend a lustre brighter than his beams:

Here he observes the subterranean cells,
Where wanton Nature sports in idle shells.
Some helicocoids, some conical appear:
These miters emulate, those turbans are.
Here marcasites in various figures wait,
To ripen to a true metallic state:
Till drops that from impending rocks descend
Their substance petrify, and progress end.
Nigh livid seas of kindled sulfur flow,
And, whilst enrag'd, their fiery furies glow,
Convulsions in the lab'ring mountains rise,
And hurl their melted vitals to the skies.

He views with horror next the noisy cave,
Where with hoarse dins imprison'd tempests rave;
Where clam'rous hurricanes attempt their flight,
Or, whirling in tumultuous eddies, fight.
The warring winds unmov'd Hygeia heard,
Brav'd their loud jars, but much for Celsus fear'd.
Andromeda, so whilst her hero fought,
Shook for his danger, but her own forgot.

And now the goddess with her charge descends,
Where scarce one chearful glimpse their steps befriends.

Here his forsaken seat old Chaos keeps;
 And undisturb'd by form, in silence sleeps.
 A grisly wight, and hideous to the eye,
 An awkward lump of shapeless anarchy.
 With fordid age his features are defac'd;
 His lands unpeopl'd, and his countries waste.
 To these dark realms much learned lumber creeps,
 There copious Morton safe in silence sleeps.
 Where mushroom libels in oblivion lie,
 And, soon as born, like other monsters die.
 Upon a couch of jet, in these abodes,
 Dull Night, his melancholy consort, nods.
 No ways and means their cabinet employ;
 But their dark hours they waste in barren joy.

Nigh this recess, with terror they survey
 Where death maintains his dread tyrannic sway;
 In the close covert of a cypress grove,
 Where goblins frisk, and airy spectres rove,
 Yawns a dark cave, with awful horror wide,
 And there the monarch's triumphs are descry'd.
 Confus'd, and wildly huddled to the eye,
 The beggar's pouch, and prince's purple lie.
 Dim lamps with sickly rays scarce seem to glow;
 Sighs heave in mournful moans, and tears o'erflow:
 Restless Anxiety, forlorn Despair,
 And all the faded family of Care:
 Old mould'ring urns, racks, daggers, and distress
 Make up the frightful horror of the place.

Within its dreadful jaws those furies wait
 Which execute the harsh decrees of fate:

* Febris is first : The hag relentless hears
The virgin's sighs, and sees the infant's tears :
In her parch'd eye-balls fiery meteors reign;
And restless ferments revel in each vein.

Then † Hydrops next appears among the throng;
Bloated, and big, she slowly sails along :
But like a miser, in excess she's poor,
And pines for thirst amidst her watry store.

Now loathsome ‡ Lepra, that offensive spright,
With foul eruptions stain'd, offends the sight;
Still deaf to beauty's soft persuading pow'r:
Nor can bright Hebe's charms her bloom secure.

Whilst meagre || Phthisis gives a silent blow;
Her strokes are sure, but her advances slow.
No loud alarms, nor fierce assaults are shown :
She starves the fortress first, then takes the town.
Behind stood crowds of much inferior name,
Too num'rous to repeat, too foul to name;
The vassals of their monarch's tyranny,
Who, at his nod, on fatal errands fly.

Now Celsus, with his glorious guide, invades
The silent region of the fleeting shades;
Where rocks and rueful desarts are descry'd,
And sullen Styx rolls down his lazy tide;
Then shews the ferry-man the plant he bore,
And claims his passage to the further shore.
To whom the Stygian pilot smiling, said,
You need no passport to demand your aid :

* Fever. † Dropsy. ‡ Leprosy.
|| Consumption.

Physicians never linger on this strand :
 Old Charon's present still at their command.
 Our awful monarch and his consort owe
 To them the peopling of their realms below.
 Then in his swarthy hand he grasp'd the oar,
 Receiv'd his guests aboard, and shov'd from shore.

Now, as the goddess and her charge prepare
 To breath the sweets of soft Elysian air,
 Upon the left they spy a pensive * shade,
 Who on his bended arm had rais'd his head :
 Pale Grief sat heavy on his mournful look ;
 To whom, not unconcern'd, thus Celsus spoke :

Tell me, thou much afflicted shade, why sighs
 Burst from your breast, and torrents from your eyes :
 And who those mangled manes are, which show
 A sullen satisfaction at your woe ?

Since, said the ghost, with pity you'll attend,
 Know, I am † Guaicum, once your firmest friend,
 And on this barren beach in discontent
 Am doom'd to stay, 'till th' angry pow'rs relent.
 Those spectres, seam'd with scars, that threaten there,
 The victims of my late ill conduct are :
 They vex with endless clamours my repose ;
 This wants his palate ; that demands his nose :
 And here they execute stern Pluto's will,
 And ply me ev'ry moment with a pill.

Then Celsus thus : O much lamented state !
 How rigid is the sentence you relate ?

* See the allusion, Virg. *Æn.* 6.

† Dr Morton

Methinks I recollect your former air;
But ah, how much you're chang'd from what you were!
Insipid as your late ptisans you lie,
That once were sprightlier far than mercury.
At the sad tale you tell, the poppies weep,
And mourn their vegetable souls asleep;
The unctuous larix, and the healing pine,
Lament your fate in tears of turpentine;
But still the offspring of your brain shall prove
The grocer's care, and brave the rage of Jove.
When bonfires blaze, your vagrant works shall rise
In rockets, 'till they reach the wond'ring skies.

If mortals e'er the Stygian pow'rs could bend,
Intreaties to their awful seats I'd send.

But since no human arts the fates dissuade,
Direct me how to find blest'd Harvey's shade.
In vain th' unhappy ghost still urg'd his stay;
Then rising from the ground, he shew'd the way.
Nigh the dull shore a shapeless mountain stood,
That with a dreadful frown survey'd the flood.
Its fearful brow no lively greens put on;
No frisking goats bound o'er the ridgy stone.
To gain the summit the bright goddess try'd,
And Celsus follow'd, by degrees, his guide.

Th' ascent thus conquer'd, now they tow'r on high,
And taste th' indulgence of a milder sky.
Loose breezes on their airy pinions play,
Soft infant blossoms their chaste odours pay,
And roses blush their fragrant lives away.

Cool streams thro' flow'ry meadows gently glide;
And as they pass, their painted banks they chide.

These blefsful plains no blights nor mildews fear :
 The flow'rs ne'er fade, and shrubs are myrtles here :
 The morn awakes the tulip from her bed ;
 Ere noon in painted pride ſhe decks her head :
 Rob'd in rich dye ſhe triumphs on the green,
 And ev'ry flow'r does homage to their queen.
 So when bright Venus riſes from the flood,
 Around in throngs the wond'ring Nereids crow'd ;
 The Tritons gaze, and tune each vocal ſhell,
 And ev'ry grace unſung, the waves conceal.

The Delegate obſerves, with wond'ring eyes,
 Ambroſial dews deſcend, and incenſe riſe :
 Then haſtens onward to the penſive grove,
 The ſilent * manſion of diſaſtrous love.
 Here Jealouſy with jaundice looks appears,
 And broken ſlumbers, and fantaſtic fears ;
 The widow'd turtle hangs her moulting wings,
 And to the woods in mournful murmurs ſings.
 No winds but ſighs there are, no floods but tears ;
 Each conſcious tree a tragic ſignal bears :
 Their wounded bark records ſome broken vow ;
 And willow gariands hang on ev'ry bough.

Olivia here in ſolitude he found,
 Her down-caſt eyes fix'd on the ſilent ground ;
 Her dreſs neglected, and unbound her hair,
 She ſeem'd the dying image of deſpair.
 How lately did this celebrated thing
 Elaze in the box, and ſparkle in the ring !
 'Till the green-ſickneſs and love's force betray'd
 To death's remorseleſs arms th' unhappy maid.

* See Vir . *Æn.* 6.

All o'er confus'd the guilty lover stood,
The light forsook his eyes, his cheeks the blood;
An icy horror shiver'd in his look,
As to the cold-complexion'd nymph he spoke.

Tell me, dear shade, from whence such anxious care,
Your looks disorder'd, and your bosom bare?
Why thus you languish like a drooping flow'r,
Crush'd by the weight of some relentless show'r?
Your languid looks, your late ill conduct tell;
Oh that instead of trash you'd taken steel!

Stabb'd with th' unkind reproach, the conscious maid
Thus to her late-insulting lover said;
When ladies listen not to loose desire,
You stile our modesty, our want of fire;
Smile or forbid, encourage or reprove,
You still find reasons to believe we love:
Vainly you think a liking we betray,
And never mean the peevish things we say.
Few are the fair ones of Ruffilla's make,
Unask'd she grants, uninjur'd she'll forsake:
But several Caelia's, sev'ral ages boast,
That like where reason recommends the most.
Where heav'nly truth and tenderness conspire,
Chaste passion may persuade us to desire.

Your sex, he cry'd, as custom bids, behaves;
In forms the tyrant ties such haughty slaves.
To do nice conduct right, you nature wrong;
Impulses are but weak, where reason's strong.
Some want the courage, but how few the flame;
They like the thing, that startle at the name.
The lonely Phoenix, tho' profess'd a nun,
Warms into love, and kindles at the sun.

Those tales of spicy urns and fragrant fires,
Are but the emblems of her scorch'd desires.

Then as he strove to grasp the fleeting fair,
His empty arms confess'd th' impassive air.
From his embrace th' unbod'd spectre flies,
And as she mov'd, she chid him with her eyes.

They hasten now to that delightful plain,
Where the glad manes of the blest'd remain;
Where Harvey gathers simples, to bestow
Immortal youth on heroes shades below.
Soon as the bright Hygeia was in view,
The venerable sage her presence knew;
Thus he-----

Hail, blooming goddess! thou propitious pow'r,
Whose blessing mortals more than life implore!
With so much lustre your bright looks endear,
That cottages are courts where those appear.
Mankind, as you vouchsafe to smile or frown,
Finds ease in chains, or anguish in a crown.

With just resentments and contempt you see
The foul dissensions of the faculty;
How your sad sick'ning art now hangs her head,
And once a science, is become a trade;
Her sons ne'er risle her mysterious store;
But study nature less, and lucre more.
Not so when Rome to th' Epidaurian rais'd
A * temple, where devoted incense blaz'd.

* A temple built at Rome, in the island of Tiber,
to Æsculapius, son of Apollo.

Oft father Tiber views the lofty fire,
As the learn'd son is worship'd like the fire ;
The sage with Romulus like honours claim ;
The gift of life and laws were then the same.

I shou'd of old, how vital currents glide,
And the meanders of their reflux tide.
Then, Willis, why spontaneous actions here,
And whence involuntary motions there ;
And how the spirits by mechanic laws,
In wild careers tumultuous riots cause.
Nor wou'd our Warton, Bates, and Glisson lie
In the abyss of blind obscurity.

But now such wond'rous searches are foreborn,
And Paeon's art is by divisions torn.
Then let your charge attend, and I'll explain
How her lost health your science may regain.

Haste, and the matchless * Atticus address,
From Heav'n and great Nassau he has the mace.
Th' oppress'd to his asylum still repair ;
Arts he supports, and learning is his care.
He softens the harsh rigour of the laws,
Blunts their keen edge, and grinds their harpy claws ;
And graciously he casts a pitying eye
On the sad state of virtuous poverty.
Whene'er he speaks, heav'n ! how the list'ning throng
Dwells on the melting music of his tongue !
His arguments are emblems of his mein,
Mild, but not faint, and forcing, though serene ;
And when the pow'rs of eloquence he'd try,
Here, lightning strikes you ; there, soft breezes sigh.

* Lord Somers.

To him you must your sickly state refer,
 Your charter claims him as your visiter.
 Your wounds he'll close, and sov'reignly restore
 Your science to the height it had before.

Then Nassau's health shall be your glorious aim;
 His life should be as lasting as his fame.
 Some princes claims from devastation spring;
 He condescends in pity to be king:
 And when, amidst his olives plac'd, he stands,
 And governs more by candour than commands;
 Ev'n then not less a hero he appears,
 Than when his laurel diadem he wears.

Wou'd Phoebus, or his Granville, but inspire
 Their sacred veh'mence of poetic fire;
 To celebrate in song that godlike pow'r;
 Which did the lab'ring universe restore:
 Fair Albion's cliffs wou'd echo to the strain,
 And praise the arm that conquer'd, to regain
 The earth's repose, and empire o'er the main.

Still may th' immortal man his cares repeat,
 To make his blessings endless, as they're great:
 Whilst malice and ingratitude confess
 They've strove for ruin long without success.
 When late, * Jove's eagle from the pile shall rise,
 To bear the victor to the boundless skies,
 A while the god puts off paternal care,
 Neglects the earth, to give the heav'ns a star.
 Near thee, † Alcides, shall the hero shine;
 His rays resembling, as his labours, thine.

* Read the ceremony of the Apotheosis.

† Hercules, a constellation near Ariadne's crown.

Had some fam'd patriot of the Latin blood,
Like Julius great, and like Octavius good,
But thus preserv'd the Latin liberties,
Aspiring columns soon had reach'd the skies :
Loud Io's the proud capital had shook ;
And all the statues of the gods had spoke.

No more the sage his raptures cou'd pursue :
He paus'd ; and Celsus with his guide withdrew.

CLAREMONT.

ADDRESSED TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE THE

EARL OF CLARE,

NOW

DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

———Dryadum silvas, saltusque sequamur
Intactos, tua, Maecenas, haud mollia iussa. VIRG.

CLAREMONT.

ADDRESS TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE THE

Duke of CLARE



DUKE OF CLARE

BRITISH MUSEUM, LONDON.

P R E F A C E.

THEY that have seen those two excellent poems of Cooper's Hill and Windsor-Forest; the one by Sir J. Denham, the other by Mr Pope; will shew a great deal of candor if they approve of this. It was writ upon giving the name of Claremont to a villa, now belonging to the Earl of Clare. The situation is so agreeable and surprising, that it inclines one to think, some place of this nature put Ovid at first upon the story of Narcissus and Echo. It is probable he had observed some spring arising amongst woods and rocks, where echoes were heard, and some flower bending over the stream, and by consequence reflected from it. After reading the story, in the third book of the Metamorphosis, it is obvious to object (as an ingenious friend has already done) that the renewing the charms of a nymph, of which Ovid had dispossessed her,

“ ----- vox tantum atque ossa supersunt,
is too great a violation of poetical authority. I dare say, the gentleman who is meant would have been well pleased to have found no faults. There are not many authors one can say the same of: Experience shows us every day, that there are writers who cannot bear a brother should succeed, and the only refuge from their indignation is by being inconsiderable; upon which reflection, this thing ought to have a pretence to their favour.

They who would be more informed of what relates to the ancient Britons, and the Druids their priests, may be directed by the quotations to the authors that have mentioned them.

CLAREMONT.

WHAT frenzy has of late possess'd the brain?

Though few can write, yet fewer can refrain.
So rank our soil, our bards rise in such store,
Their rich retaining patrons scarce are more.
The last indulge the fault; the first commit;
And take off still the offal of their wit.
So shameless, so abandon'd are their ways;
They poach Parnassus, and lay snares for praise.

None ever can without admirers live,
Who have a pension or a place to give;
Great ministers ne'er fail of great deserts;
The herald gives them blood, the poet parts.
Sense is of course annex'd to wealth and pow'r;
No Muse is proof against a golden show'r.
Let but his lordship write some poor lampoon,
He's Horac'd up in doggrel like his own.
Or, if to rant in tragic rage he yields,
False fame cries---Athens; honest truth---Moorfields.
Thus fool'd, he flounces on through floods of ink;
Flags with full sail; and rises but to sink.

Some venal pens so prostitute the bays,
Their panegyrics lash; their satires praise.
So nauseously, and so unlike they paint,
N-----'s an Adonis; M-----r a faint.
Metius with those fam'd heroes is compar'd,
That led in triumph Porus and Tallard.

But such a shameless Muse must laughter move,
That aims to make Salmonæus vie with Jove.

To form great works puts Fate itself to pain ;
Ev'n Nature labours for a mighty man.
And to perpetuate her hero's fame,
She strains no less a poet next to frame.
Rare as the hero's is the poet's rage ;
Churchills and Drydens rise but once an age.
With earthquakes tow'ring Pindar's birth begun ;
And an eclipse produc'd * Alcmena's son :
The fire of gods o'er Phoebus cast a shade ;
But with a hero well the world repaid.

No bard for bribes shou'd prostitute his vein ;
Nor dare to flatter where he should arraign.
To grant big Thraso valour, Phormio sense,
Shou'd indignation give, at least offence.

I hate such mercenaries, and wou'd try
From this reproach to rescue poetry.
Apollo's sons shou'd scorn the servile art,
And to court-preachers leave the fulsome part.

What then---you'll say, Must no true sterling pass,
Because impure allays some coin debase ?
Yes, praise, if justly offer'd, I'll allow ;
And, when I meet with merit, scribble too.

The man who's honest, open, and a friend,
Glad to oblige, uneasy to offend ;
Forgiving others, to himself severe ;
Though earnest, easy ; civil, yet sincere ;
Who seldom, but through great good nature, errs ;
Detesting fraud as much as flatterers ;

* Hercules.

"Tis he my Muse's homage shou'd receive;
If I cou'd write, or Holles cou'd forgive.

But pardon, learned youth, that I decline
A name so lov'd by me, so lately thine.
When Pelham you resign'd, what cou'd repair
A loss so great, unless Newcastle's heir?
Hydaspes, that the Asian plains divides,
From his bright urn in purest chrystal glides:
But when new-gath'ring streams enlarge his course,
He's Indus nam'd, and rolls with mightier force.
In fabled floods of gold his current flows,
And wealth on nations, as he runs, bestows.

Direct me, Clare, to name some nobler Muse;
That for her theme thy late recess may chuse;
Such, bright descriptions shall the subject dress;
Such vary'd scenes, such pleasing images;
That swains shall leave their lawns, and nymphs their
bow'rs,

And quit Arcadia for a seat like yours.

But say, who shall attempt th' advent'rous part,
Where Nature borrows dress from Vanbrook's art:
If, by Apollo taught, he touch the lyre,
Stones mount in columns, palaces aspire,
And rocks are animated with his fire.

'Tis he can paint in verse those rising hills,
Their gentle vallies, and their silver rills:
Close groves and op'ning glades with verdure spread;
Flow'rs sighing sweets, and shrubs that balsam bleed:
With gay variety the prospect crown'd;
And all the bright horizon smiling round.

Whilst I attempt to tell how antient fame
Records from whence the villa took its name.

In times of old, when British nymphs were known
 To love no foreign fashions like their own;
 When dress was monstrous, and fig-leaves the mode,
 And quality put on no paint but * woad.
 Of Spanish red unheard was then the name;
 For cheeks were only taught to blush by shame.
 No beauty, to increase her crowd of slaves,
 Rose out of wash, as Venus out of waves.
 Not yet lead-comb was on the toilet plac'd;
 Not yet broad eye-brows were reduc'd by paste:
 No shape-smith set up shop, and drove a trade
 To mend the work wise Providence had made.
 Tires were unheard of, and unknown the loom,
 And thrifty silkworms spun for times to come.
 Bare limbs were then the marks of modesty;
 All like Diana were below the knee.

The men appear'd a rough undaunted race,
 Surly in show, unfashion'd in address.
 † Upright in actions, and in thought sincere;
 And strictly were the same they would appear.
 Honour was plac'd in probity alone;
 For villains had no titles but their own.
 None travell'd to return politely mad;
 But still what fancy wanted, reason had.
 Whatever Nature ask'd, their hands cou'd give;
 Unlearn'd in feasts, they only eat to live.

* *Glastum*. See Pliny. * *ἰσώρις*. See Dioscorides.

† *Mores eis simplices*, a verus et improbitate nostrae tempestatis hominum longe remoti. See Diod. Sic. Bib. Hist. lib. 4. vers. Lat.

No cook with art increas'd physicians fees;
 Nor serv'd up death in soups and fricaseys.
 Their taste was, like their temper, unrefin'd;
 For looks were then the language of the mind.

Ere right and wrong, by turns, set prices bore;
 And conscience had its rate, like common whore:
 Or tools to great employments had pretence;
 Or merit was made out by impudence;
 Or coxcombs look'd assuming in affairs;
 And humble friends grew haughty ministers.

In those good days of innocence, here stood
 Of oaks, with heads unshorn, a solemn wood,
 Frequented by the * Druids, to bestow
 Religious honours on the † misselto.

The naturalists are puzzled to explain
 How trees did first this stranger entertain;
 Whether the busy birds ingraft it there;
 Or else some deity's mysterious care,
 As Druids thought; for when the blasted oak
 By lightning falls, this plant escapes the stroke.
 So when the Gauls the tow'rs of Rome defac'd,
 And flames drove forward with outrageous waste;
 Jove's favour'd capitol uninjur'd stood:
 So sacred was the mansion of a god.

Shades honour'd by this plant the Druids chose;
 Here, for the bleeding victims, altars rose.

* Jam per se roborum eligunt lucos. Plin. lib. 16.

† Et nihil habent Druidae visco, et arbore in qua
 gignatur, si modo sit robur, sacratius. Plin. ibid.

Et viscum Druida. Ovid.

To * Hermes oft they paid their sacrifice;
 Parent of arts, and patron of the wise,
 Good rules in mild persuasions they convey'd;
 Their lives confirming what their lectures said.
 None violated truth, invaded right;
 Yet had few laws, but will and appetite.
 The people's peace they study'd, and profess'd
 No † politics but public interest.
 Hard was their lodging, homely was their food;
 For all their luxury was doing good.

No miter'd priest did then with princes vie,
 Nor o'er his master claim supremacy;
 Nor were the rules of faith allow'd more pure,
 For being several centuries obscure.
 None lost their fortunes, forfeited their blood,
 For not believing what none understood.
 Nor simony nor sinecure were known;
 Nor wou'd the bee work honey for the drone.
 Nor was the way invented, to dismiss
 Fair Abigails with fat pluralities.

But then, in fillets bound, a hallow'd band
 Taught how to tend the flocks, and till the land:
 Cou'd tell what murrains in what months begun;
 And how the ‡ seasons travell'd with the sun:

* Deum maxime Mercurium colunt: Hunc omnium inventorem artium ferunt: Post hunc, Jovem, Apollinem, &c. Caes.

† De republica, nisi per consilium, loqui non conceditur. Caes. lib. 6.

‡ Multa praeterea de sideribus, et eorum motu, de rerum natura, &c. Caes.

When his dim orb seem'd wading thro' the air;
They told that rain on dropping wings drew near:
And that the winds their bellowing throats wou'd try,
When redd'ning clouds reflect his blood-shot eye.
All their remarks on nature's laws require
More lines than wou'd ev'n Alpin's readers tire.

This sect in sacred veneration held
Opinions by the Samian sage reveal'd;
That matter no annihilation knows,
But wanders from these tenements to those.
For when the plastic particles are gone,
They rally in some species like their own.
The self-same atoms, if new jumbled, will
In seas be restless, and in earth be still;
Can, in the truffle, furnish out a feast;
And nauseate, in the scaly squil, the taste.
Those falling leaves that wither with the year,
Will, in the next, on other stems appear.
The sap that now forsakes the bursting bud,
In some new shoot will circulate green blood.
The breath to-day that from the jasmine blows,
Will, when the season offers, scent the rose;
And those bright flames that in carnations glow,
Ere long will blanch the lily with a snow.

They hold that matter must be still the same;
And varies but in figure and in name:
And that the * soul not dies, but shifts her seat;
New rounds of life to run; or past, repeat.

* Imprimis hoc volunt persuadere, non interire animas, sed ab aliis, post mortem, transire ad alios. Cæc.

Thus when the brave and virtuous cease to live;
 In beings brave and virtuous they * revive.
 Again shall Romulus in Nassau reign;
 Great Numa, in a Brunswick prince, ordain [again.
 Good laws; and halcyon years shall hush the world }

The truths of old traditions were their theme;
 Or gods descending in a morning dream.
 Past'd acts they cited; and to come, foretold;
 And cou'd events not ripe for fate unfold.
 Beneath the shady covert of an oak,
 In † rhymes uncouth, propheticall they spoke.
 Attend then, Clare; nor is the legend long;
 The story of thy villa is their ‡ song.

The fair Montano, of the sylvan race,
 Was with each beauty blest'd, and ev'ry grace.
 His sire, green Faunus, guardian of the wood;
 His mother, a swift naiad of the flood.
 Her silver urn supply'd the neighbouring streams;
 A darling daughter of the bounteous Thames.

Not lovelier seem'd Narcissus to the eye;
 Nor, when a flower, cou'd boast more fragrancy.
 His skin might with the down of swans compare,
 More smooth than pearl; than mountain snow more fair.

* Et vos barbaricos ritus----sacrorum Druidae-----
 rediturae parcere vitae.-----regit idem spiritus artus.
 Lucan lib. 1.

† Et magnum numerum versuum ediscere dicuntur.
 Caes.

‡ Superstitione vana Druidae caneant, &c. Tacit.
 lib. 4.

In shape so poplars or the cedars please ;
But those are not so straight ; nor graceful these.
His flowing hair in unforc'd ringlets hung ;
Tuneful his voice, persuasive was his tongue.
The haughtiest fair scarce heard without a wound,
But sunk to softness at the melting sound.

The fourth bright lustre had but just begun
To shade his blushing cheeks with doubtful down.
All day he rang'd the woods, and spread the toils,
And knew no pleasures but in sylvan spoils.
In vain the nymphs put on each pleasing grace ;
Too cheap the quarry seem'd, too short the chace :
For tho' possession be th' undoubted view ;
To seize is far less pleasure than pursue.
Those nymphs that yield too soon, their charms impair ;
And prove at last but despicably fair.
His own undoing glutton Love decrees ;
And palls the appetite he meant to please.
His slender wants too largely he supplies ;
Thrives on short meals, but by indulgence dies.

A grot there was, with hoary moss o'ergrown,
Rough with rude shells, and arch'd with mould'ring stone ;
Sad silence reigns within the lonesome wall ;
And weeping rills but whisper as they fall.
The clasping ivys up the ruin creep ;
And there the bat and drowsy beetle sleep.

This cell sad Echo chose, by Love betray'd ;
A fit retirement for a mourning maid.
Hither fatigu'd with toil, the sylvan flies,
To shun the calenture of sultry skies :
But feels a fiercer flame ; Love's keenest dart
Finds thro' his eyes a passage to his heart.

Pensive the virgin sat with folded arms ;
Her tears but lending lustre to her charms.
With pity he beholds her wounding woes ;
But wants himself the pity he bestows.

Oh whether of a mortal born ! he cries,
Or some fair daughter of the distant skies ;
That, in compassion leave your crystal sphere,
To guard some favour'd charge, and wander here ?
Slight on my suit, nor too ungentle prove ;
But pity one, a novice yet in love.
If words avail not, see my suppliant tears ;
Nor disregard those dumb petitioners.

From his complaint the tyrant virgin flies,
Asserting all the empire of her eyes.

Full thrice three days he lingers out in grief ;
Nor seeks from sleep, or sustenance, relief.
The lamp of life now casts a glimm'ring light ;
The meeting lids his setting eyes benight.
What force remains, the hapless lover tries :
Invoking thus his kindred deities.

Haste, parents of the flood, your race to mourn ;
With tears replenish each exhausted urn :
Retake the life you gave, but let the maid
Fall a just victim to an injur'd shade.
More he endeavour'd ; but the accents hung
Half form'd, and stopp'd unfinish'd on his tongue.

For him the Graces their sad vigils keep ;
Love broke his bow, and wish'd for eyes to weep.
What gods can do the mournful Faunus tries ;
A mount erecting where the sylvan lies.
The rural pow'rs the wond'rous pile survey,
And piously their diff'rent honours pay.

Th' ascent, with verdant herbage Pales spread ;
And nymphs, transform'd to laurels, lent their shade.
Her stream a naiad from the basis pours ;
And Flora strows the summit with her flowers.
Alone mount Latmos claims pre-eminence,
When silver Cynthia lights the world from thence.

Sad Echo now laments her rigor, more
Than for Narcissus, her loose flame before.
Her flesh to sinew shrinks, her charms are fled ;
All day in rifted rocks she hides her head.
Soon as the ev'ning shows a sky serene,
Abroad she strays, but never to be seen.
And ever as the weeping naiads name
Her cruelty, the nymph repeats the same.
With them she joins, her lover to deplore,
And haunts the lonely dales he rang'd before.
Her sex's privilege she yet retains ;
And tho' to nothing wasted, voice remains.

So sung the Druids---then with rapture fir'd,
Thus utter what the † Delphic god inspir'd.

Ere twice ten centuries shall fleet away,
A Brunswick prince shall Britain's scepter sway.
No more fair Liberty shall mourn her chains ;
The maid is rescu'd ; her lov'd Perseus reigns.
From * Jove he comes, the captive to restore ;
Nor can the thunder of his sire do more.
Religion shall dread nothing but disguise ;
And Justice needs no bandage for her eyes.

† Et partim auguriis, partim conjectura, quae essent
futura, &c. Cic. de Divinatione.

* Son of Jupiter and Danae.

Britannia smiles, nor fears a foreign Lord ;
 Her safety to secure, two powers accord,
 Her Neptune's trident, and her monarch's sword.
 Like him, shall his Augustus shine in arms,
 Tho' captive to his Carolina's charms.
 Ages with future heroes she shall bless ;
 And Venus once more found an Alban race.

Then shall a Clare in honour's cause engage :
 Example must reclaim a graceless age :
 Where guides themselves for guilty views mislead ;
 And laws ev'n by the legislators bleed ;
 His brave contempt of state shall teach the proud,
 None but the virtuous are of noble blood :
 For tyrants are but princes in disguise,
 Tho' sprung by long descent from Ptolemies.
 Right he shall vindicate, good laws defend ;
 The firmest patriot, and the warmest friend.
 Great Edward's † order early he shall wear ;
 New light restoring to the sully'd star.
 Oft will his leisure this retirement chuse,
 Still finding future subjects for the Muse :
 And to record the sylvan's fatal flame,
 The place shall live in song, and Claremont be the name.

† Theologi et vates erant apud eos, Druidas ipsi vo-
 cant, qui a victimarum extis de futuris divinant. Diod.
 Sic. Lat. Ver.

P O E M S

O N

SEVERAL OCCASIONS.



To the Lady LOUISA LENOS; with OVID'S
EPISTLES.

IN moving lines these few epistles tell
What fate attends the nymph that likes too well :
How faintly the successful lovers burn ;
And their neglected charms how ladies mourn.
The fair you'll find, when soft intreaties fail,
Assert their uncontested right, and rail.
Too soon they listen, and resent too late ;
'Tis sure they love, whene'er they strive to hate.
Their sex or proudly shuns, or poorly craves ;
Commencing tyrants, and concluding slaves.
In diff'ring breasts what diff'ring passions glow !
Ours kindle quick, but yours extinguish slow.
The fire we boast, with force uncertain burns,
And breaks but out, as appetite returns :

But yours, like incense, mounts by soft degrees,
And in a fragrant flame consumes to please.

Your sex, in all that can engage, excel;
And ours in patience, and persuading well.
Impartial nature equally decrees:

You have your pride, and we our perjuries.
Tho' form'd to conquer, yet too oft you fall,
By giving nothing, or by granting all.

But, madam, long will your unpractis'd years
Smile at the tale of lover's hopes and fears.
Tho' infant graces sooth your gentle hours,
More soft than sighs, more sweet than breathing flow'rs;
Let rash admirers your keen light'ning fear;
'Tis bright at distance, but destroys if near.

The time e'er long, if verse presage, will come,
Your charms shall open in full Brudenal bloom.
All eyes shall gaze, all hearts shall homage vow,
And not a lover languish but for you.
The Muse shall string her lyre, with garlands crown'd,
And each bright nymph shall sicken at the sound.

So when Aurora first salutes the sight,
Pleas'd we behold the tender dawn of light;
But when with riper red she warms the skies,
In circling throngs the wing'd musicians rise:
And the gay groves rejoice in symphonies.
Each pearly flow'r with painted beauty shines;
And ev'ry star its fading fire resigns.

TO RICHARD EARL OF BURLINGTON; with
OVID'S ART OF LOVE.

My LORD,

OUR poet's rules, in easy numbers, tell
He felt the passion he describes so well.
In that soft art successfully refin'd,
Tho' angry Caesar frown'd, the fair were kind.
More ills from love, than tyrants malice flow;
Jove's thunder strikes less sure than Cupid's bow.

Ovid both felt the pain, and found the ease:
Physicians study most their own disease.

The practice of that age in this we try;
Ladies wou'd listen then, and lovers lye.
Who flatter'd most the fair were most polite;
Each thought her own admirer in the right:

To be but faintly rude was criminal;
But to be boldly so, aton'd for all.
Breeding was banish'd for the fair one's sake:
The sex ne'er gives, but suffers ours shou'd take.

Advice to you, my lord, in vain we bring;
The flow'rs ne'er fail to meet the blooming spring.
Tho' you possess all nature's gifts, take care;
Love's queen has charms, but fatal is her snare.
On all that goddess her false smiles bestows,
As on the seas she reigns, from whence she rose.
Young Zephyrs sigh with fragrant breath, soft gales
Guide her gay barge, and swell the silken sails;

Each silver wave in beauteous order moves,
 Fair as her bosom, gentle as her doves ;
 But he that once embarks, too surely finds
 A fullen sky, black storms, and angry winds ;
 Cares, fears, and anguish, hov'ring on the coast ;
 And wrecks of wretches by their folly lost.

When coming time shall bless you with a bride,
 Let passion not persuade, but reason guide ;
 Instead of gold, let gentle truth endear ;
 She has most charms who is the most sincere.
 Shun vain variety, 'tis but disease ;
 Weak appetites are ever hard to please.
 The nymph must fear to be inquisitive ;
 'Tis for the sex's quiet to believe.
 Her air an easy confidence must show,
 And shun to find what she wou'd dread to know ;
 Still charming with all arts that can engage ;
 And be the Juliana of the age.

To the Dutcheß of BOLTON, on her stay-
 ing all the Winter in the Country.

CEASE, rural conquests, and set free your swains,
 To dryads leave the groves, to nymphs the plains ;
 In pensive dales alone let Echo dwell,
 And each sad sigh she hears with sorrow tell.
 Haste, let your eyes at * Kent's pavilion shine ;
 It wants but stars, and then the work's divine.

* A gallery the Earl of Kent has built at St James's.

Of late, fame only tells of yielding towns,
 Of captive generals, and protected crowns :
 Of purchas'd laurels, and of battles won,
 Lines forc'd, states vanquish'd, provinces o'er-run,
 And all Alcides' labour summ'd in one. }

The brave must to the fair now yield the prize,
 And English arms submit to English eyes :
 In which bright list among the first you stand ;
 Tho' each a goddess, or a Sunderland.

To the Duke of MARLBOROUGH, on his
 voluntary Banishment.

G O, mighty prince, and those great nations see,
 Which thy victorious arms before made free ;
 View that fam'd column, where thy name engrav'd,
 Shall tell their children who their empire fav'd.
 Point out that marble where thy worth is shown,
 To every grateful country but thy own :
 O censure undeserv'd ! unequal fate !
 Which strove to lessen him who made her great :
 Which pamper'd with success and rich in fame,
 Extoll'd his conquests, but condemn'd his name.
 But virtue is a crime when plac'd on high,
 Tho' all the fault's in the beholder's eye :
 Yet he untouch'd, as in the heat of wars,
 Flies from no danger but domestic jars ;
 Smiles at the dart which angry envy shakes ;
 And only fears for her whom he forsakes.

H

He grieves to find the course of virtue cross'd,
 Blushing to see our blood no better lost;
 Disdains in factious parties to contend,
 And proves in absence most Britannia's friend.
 So the great Scipio of old, to shun
 That glorious envy which his arms had won,
 Far from his dear, ungrateful Rome retir'd,
 Prepar'd, when, e'er his country's cause requir'd,
 To shine in peace or war, and be again admir'd.

To the Earl of GODOLPHIN.

WHILST weeping Europe bends beneath her ills,
 And where the sword destroys not, famine kills;
 Our isle enjoys, by your successful care,
 The pomp of peace, amidst the woes of war.
 So much the public to your prudence owes,
 You think no labour's long for our repose:
 Such conduct, such integrity are shown,
 There are no coffers empty but your own.
 From mean dependence, merit you retrieve;
 Unask'd you offer, and unseen you give:
 Your favour, like the Nile, increase bestows,
 And yet conceals the source from whence it flows.
 No pomp, or grand appearance you approve:
 A people at their ease is what you love:
 To lessen taxes, and a nation save,
 Are all the grants your services wou'd have.

SEVERAL OCCASIONS. 123

Thus far the state-machine wants no repair,
But moves in matchless order by your care ;
Free from confusion, settled and serene ;
And, like the universe, by springs unseen.

But now some star, sinister to our pray'rs,
Contrives new schemes, and calls you from affairs :
No anguish in your looks, or cares appear,
But how to teach th' unpractis'd crew to steer.
Thus, like a victim, no constraint you need,
To expiate their offence by whom you bleed.

Ingratitude's a weed of ev'ry clime ;
It thrives too fast at first, but fades in time.
The god of day, and your own lot's the same ;
The vapours you have rais'd, obscure your flame :
But tho' you suffer, and a while retreat,
Your globe of light looks larger as you set,

On her MAJESTY's Statue in St Paul's Churchyard.

NEAR the vast bulk of that stupendous frame,
Known by the gentiles great apostle's name ;
With grace divine, great Anna's seen to rise,
An awful form that glads a nation's eyes :
Beneath her feet four mighty realms appear,
And with due reverence pay their homage there.
Britain and Ireland, seem to own her grace,
And ev'n wild India wears a smiling face.

But France alone with downcast eyes is seen,
The sad attendant of so good a queen :

Ungrateful country! to forget so soon,
 All that great Anna for thy sake has done :
 When sworn the kind defender of thy cause,
 Spite of her dear religion, spite of laws,
 For thee she broke her gen'ral----and her word ;
 For thee her mind in doubtful terms she told,
 And learn'd to speak like oracles of old :
 For thee, for thee alone, what cou'd she more?
 She lost the honour she had gain'd before;
 Lost all the trophies, which her arms had won,
 (Such Caesar never knew, nor Philip's son)
 Resign'd the glories of a ten years reign,
 And such as none but Marlborough's arm cou'd gain.
 For thee in annals she's content to shine,
 Like other monarchs of the Stuart line.

On the New Conspiracy, 1716.

WHere, where, degen'rate countrymen---how high
 Will your fond folly and your madness fly?
 Are scenes of death, and servile chains so dear,
 To sue for blood and bondage every year;
 Like rebel Jews, with too much freedom curst,
 To court a change----tho' certain of the worst?
 There is no climate which you have not sought,
 Where tools of war, and vagrant kings are bought:
 O! noble passion, to your country kind,
 To crown her with----the refuse of mankind.

As if the new Rome, which your schemes unfold,
 Were to be built on rapine, like the old;
 While her asylum openly provides
 For ev'ry ruffian ev'ry nation hides.

Will you still tempt the great avenger's blow,
 And force the bolt---which he is loath to throw?
 Have there too few already bit the plains,
 To make you seek new Prestons and Dumblains?
 If vengeance loses its effects so fast,
 Yet those of mercy sure---should longer last.

Say, is it rashness or despair provokes
 Your harden'd hearts to these repeated strokes?
 Reply: Behold, their looks their souls declare,
 All pale with guilt, and dumb with deep despair.

Hear then, you sons of blood, your destin'd fate,
 Hear, e'er you sin too soon---repent too late.
 Madly you try to weaken George's reign,
 And stem the stream of Providence in vain.
 By right, by worth, by wonders made our own,
 The hand that gave it, shall preserve his throne.
 As vain your hopes to distant times remove,
 To try the second, or the third from Jove;
 For 'tis the nature of that sacred line,
 To conquer monsters, and to grow divine.

On the KING of SPAIN.

PALLAS, destructive to the Trojan line,
 Raz'd their proud walls, tho' built by hands divine;

But love's bright goddess, with propitious grace,
 Preserv'd a hero, and restor'd the race.
 Thus the fam'd empire where the Iber flows,
 Fell by Eliza, and by Anna rose.

VERSES written for the TOASTING-GLASSES
 of the KIT-CAT-CLUB, 1703.

Lady CARLISLE.

CARLISLE's a name can ev'ry Muse inspire,
 To Carlisle fill the glass, and tune the lyre.
 With his lov'd bays the god of day shall crown
 A wit and lustre equal to his own.

The SAME.

At once the sun and Carlisle took their way,
 To warm the frozen north, and kindle day;
 The flow'rs to both their glad creation ow'd,
 Their virtues he, their beauties she bestow'd.

Lady ESSEX.

The bravest hero, and the brightest dame,
 From Belgia's happy clime Britannia drew;
 One pregnant cloud we find does often frame
 The awful thunder, and the gentle dew.

The SAME.

To Essex fill the sprightly wine;
 The health's engaging and divine:
 Let purest odours scent the air;
 And wreaths of roses bind our hair:

In her chaste lips these blushings lie ;
And those her gentle sighs supply.

Lady HYDE.

The god of wine grows jealous of his art ;
He only fires the head, but Hyde the heart :
The queen of love looks on, and smiles to see
A nymph more mighty than a deity.

On Lady HYDE in Child-bed.

Hyde, tho' in agonies, her graces keeps ;
A thousand charms the nymph's complaints adorn :
In tears of dew so mild Aurora weeps ;
But her bright offspring is the chearful morn.

Lady WHARTON.

When Jove to Ida did the gods invite,
And in immortal toasting pass'd the night ;
With more than nectar he the banquet blest'd :
For Wharton was the Venus of the feast.

PROLOGUE design'd for TAMERLANE.

TO-day a mighty hero comes to warm
Your curdling blood, and bid you, Britons, arm.
To valour much he owes, to virtue more ;
He fights to save, and conquers to restore.
He strains no texts, nor makes dragoons persuade ;
He likes religion, but he hates the trade.
Born for mankind, they by his labour live ;
Their property is his prerogative.
His sword destroys less than his mercy saves ;
And none, except his passions, are his slaves.

Such, Britons, is the prince that you possess,
 In council greatest, and in camps no less :
 Brave, but not cruel ; wise without deceit ;
 Born for an age curs'd with a Bajazet.
 But you, disdaining to be too secure,
 Ask his protection, and yet grudge his pow'r.
 With you a monarch's right is in dispute ;
 Who give supplies are only obsolete.
 Britons, for shame ! your factious feuds decline ;
 Too long you've labour'd for the Bourbon line :
 Assert lost rights ; an Austrian prince alone
 Is born to nod upon a Spanish throne.
 A cause no less cou'd on great Eugene call ;
 Steep Alpine rocks require an Hannibal :
 He shows you your lost honour to retrieve,
 Our troops will fight, when once the senate give.
 Quit your cabals and factions, and in spite
 Of Whig and Tory, in this cause unite.
 One vote will then send Anjou back to France ;
 There let the meteor end his airy dance :
 Else to the Mantuan soil he may repair ;
 E'en abdicated gods were Latium's care :
 At worst, he'll find some Cornish borough here.

PROLOGUE to the Music-meeting in York-buildings.

WHERE music and more pow'rful beauties reign,
 Who can support the pleasure and the pain ?
 Here their soft magic those two sirens try ;
 And if we listen, or but look, we die.

Why should we then the wond'rous tales admire,
 Of Orpheus' numbers, or Amphion's lyre?
 Behold this scene of beauty, and confess
 The wonder greater, and the fiction less.
 Like human victims here we are decreed
 To worship those bright altars where we bleed :
 Who braves his fate in fields must tremble here;
 Triumphant love more vassals makes than fear.
 No faction homage to the fair denies;
 The right divine's apparent in their eyes.
 That empire's fix'd that's founded in desire:
 Those fires the vestals guard can ne'er expire.

PROLOGUE to the Cornish Squire, a Comedy.

WHO dares not plot in this good natur'd age?
 Each place is privileg'd, except the stage:
 There the dread phalanx of reformers come,
 Sworn foes to wit, as Carthage was to Rome;
 Their ears so sanctify'd, no scenes can please,
 But heavy hymns, or pensive homilies:
 Truths, plainly told, their tender nature wound;
 Young rakes must, like old patriarchs, expound:
 The painted punk the proselyte must play;
 And bawds, like fille-dévôtes, procure and pray.
 How nature is inverted! soon you'll see
 Senates unanimous, and sects agree;
 Jews at extortion rail, and monks at mystery.
 Let characters be represented true;
 An airy sinner makes an aukward prue.

With force and fitting freedom vice arraign ;
 Though pulpits flatter, let the stage speak plain.
 If Verres gripes the poor, or Naenius write ;
 Call that the robber, this the parasite.
 Ne'er aim to make an eagle of an owl ;
 Cinna's a statesman, Sydrophil a tool.
 Our censurers with want of sense dispense ;
 But tremble at the hideous sin of sense.
 Who wou'd not such hard fate as ours bemoan ?
 Indicted for some wit, and damn'd for none.
 But if, to-day, some scandal shou'd appear,
 Let those precise Tartuffs bind o'er Moliere.
 Poet and Papist too they'll surely maul ;
 There's no indulgencies at Hicks's-hall.
 Gold only can their pious spite allay ;
 They call none criminals that can but pay :
 The heedless shrines with victims they invoke :
 They take the fat, and give the gods the smoke.

PROLOGUE spoken at the opening of the
 QUEEN'S THEATRE in the Haymarket.

SUCH was our builder's art, that, soon as nam'd,
 This fabric, like the infant-world, was fram'd.
 The architect must on dull order wait ;
 But 'tis the poet only can create.
 None else, at pleasure, can duration give ;
 When marble fails, the Muse's structures live.
 The Cyprian fane is now no longer seen,
 Though sacred to the name of Love's fair queen :

Ev'n Athens scarce in pompous ruin stands,
 Though finish'd by the learn'd Minerva's hands.
 More sure presages from these walls we find,
 By * beauty founded, and by wit design'd.
 In the good age of ghostly ignorance,
 How did cathedrals rise and zeal advance?
 The merry monks said orisons at ease;
 Large were their meals, and light their penances:
 Pardon for sins was purchas'd with estates;
 And none but rogues in rags dy'd reprobates.
 But now that pious pageantry's no more;
 And stages thrive, as churches did before:
 Your own magnificence you here survey;
 Majestic columns stand where dunghills lay;
 And carrs triumphal rise from carts of hay.
 Swains here are taught to hope, and nymphs to fear;
 And big Almanzors fight mock Blenheims here:
 Descending goddesses adorn our scenes,
 And quit their bright abodes for gilt machines.
 Shou'd Jove, for this fair circle, leave his throne,
 He'd meet a lightning fiercer than his own:
 Though to the sun his tow'ring eagles rise,
 They scarce cou'd bear the lustre of these eyes.

* My Lady Sunderland was pleased to lay the first
 stone.

EPILOGUE to the Tragedy of CATO.

WHAT odd fantastic things we women do!
 Who wou'd not listen when young lovers woo?
 What! die a maid, yet have the choice of two!
 Ladies are often cruel to their cost:
 To give you pain themselves they punish most.
 Vows of virginity shou'd well be weigh'd;
 Too oft they're cancell'd, though in convents made.
 Wou'd you revenge such rash resolves—you may
 Be spiteful—and believe the thing we say;
 We hate you, when you're easily said nay.
 How needless, if you knew us, were your fears!
 Let love have eyes, and beauty will have ears:
 Our hearts are form'd as you yourselves would chuse;
 Too proud to ask, too humble to refuse:
 We give to merit, and to wealth we sell;
 He sighs with most success that settles well.
 The woes of wedlock with the joys we mix;
 'Tis best repenting in a coach and six.
 Blame not our conduct, since we but pursue
 Those lively lessons we have learn'd from you:
 Your breasts no more the fire of beauty warms;
 But wicked wealth usurps the pow'r of charms.
 What pains to get the gaudy thing you hate;
 To swell in show, and be a wretch in state!
 At plays you ogle; at the ring you bow:
 Ev'n churches are no sanctuaries now:
 There golden idols all your vows receive;
 She is no goddess who has nought to give.

Oh may once more the happy age appear,
 When words were artless, and the thoughts sincere;
 When gold and grandeur were unenvy'd things,
 And courts less coveted than groves and springs.
 Love then shall only mourn when truth complains,
 And constancy feel transport in its chains:
 Sighs with success their own soft anguish tell;
 And eyes shall utter what the lips conceal:
 Virtue again to its bright station climb,
 And beauty fear no enemy but time:
 The fair shall listen to desert alone;
 And every Lucia find a Cato's son.

TO MR GAY, on his POEMS.

WHEN Fame did o'er the spacious plain
 The lays she once had learn'd repeat;
 All listen'd to the tuneful strains,
 And wonder'd who could sing so sweet.
 'Twas thus. The Graces held the lyre,
 Th' harmonious frame the Muses strung;
 The Loves and Smiles compos'd the choir;
 And Gay transcrib'd what Phoebus sung.

To the MERRY POETASTER at Sadlers-Hall
in Cheapſide.

UNwieldy pedant, let thy awkward Muſe
With cenſures praiſe, with flatteries abuſe.
To laſh, and not be felt, in thee's an art;
Thou ne'er had'ſt any but thy ſchool-boys ſmart.
Then be advis'd, and ſcribble not again;
Thou'rt fashion'd for a ſnail, and not a pen.
If B——l's immortal wit thou would'ſt deſcry,
Pretend 'tis he that writ thy poetry.
Thy feeble ſatire ne'er can do him wrong:
Thy poems and thy patients live not long.

OVID'S METAMORPHOSES,

B O O K XIV.

The Transformation of SCYLLA.

NOW Glaucus, with a lover's haste, bounds o'er
The swelling waves, and seeks the Latian shore.
Messena, Rhegium, and the barren coast
Of flaming Ætna, to his sight are lost:
At length he gains the Tyrrhene seas, and views
The hills, where baleful philters Circe brews;
Monsters in various forms around her press;
As thus the god salutes the sorceress.
O Circe, be indulgent to my grief,
And give a love-sick deity relief.
Too well the mighty pow'r of plants I know,
To those my figure and new fate I owe.
Against Messena, on th' Ausonian coast,
I Scylla view'd, and from that hour was lost.
In tend'rest sounds I su'd; but still the fair
Was deaf to vows, and piteless to pray'r.
If numbers can avail, exert their pow'r;
Or energy of plants, if plants have more.
I ask no cure; let but the virgin pine
With dying pangs, or agonies like mine.
No longer Circe could her flame disguise;
But to the suppliant god-marine replies:

When maids are coy, have manlier aims in view ;
Leave those that fly, but those that like, pursue.
If love can be by kind compliance won ;
See, at your feet, the daughter of the Sun.

Sooner, said Glaucus, shall the ash remove
From mountains, and the swelling surges love ;
Or humble sea-weed to the hills repair ;
Ere I think any but my Scylla fair.

Straight Circe reddens with a guilty shame,
And vows revenge for her rejected flame.
Fierce liking oft a spite as fierce creates ;
For love refus'd, without aversion, hates.
To hurt her hapless rival she proceeds ;
And, by the fall of Scylla, Glaucus bleeds.

Some fascinating bev'rage now she brews,
Compos'd of deadly drugs, and baneful juice.
At Rhegium she arrives ; the ocean braves,
And treads with unwet feet the boiling waves.
Upon the beech a winding bay there lies,
Shelter'd from seas, and shaded from the skies :
This station Scylla chose ; a soft retreat
From chilling winds, and raging Cancer's heat.
The vengeful fore'refs visits this recess ;
Her charm infuses, and infects the place.
Soon as the nymph wades in, her nether parts
Turn into dogs ; then at herself she starts.
A ghastly horror in her eyes appears ;
But yet she knows not, who it is she fears :
In vain she offers from herself to run,
And drags about her what she strives to shun.

Oppress'd with grief the pitying god appears,
And swells the rising surges with his tears ;

From the distressed forcerefs he flies ;
 Her art reviles, and her address denies :
 Whilst hapless Scylla, chang'd to rocks, decrees
 Destruction to those barks that beat the seas.

The Voyage of ÆNEAS continued.

Here bulg'd the pride of fam'd Ulysses' fleet,
 But good Æneas 'scap'd the fate he met.
 As to the Latian shore the Trojan stood,
 And cut with well-tim'd oars the foaming flood :
 He weather'd fell Charybdis : But ere-long
 The skies were darken'd, and the tempest strong.
 Then to the Libyan coast he stretches o'er,
 And makes at length the Carthaginian shore.
 Here Dido, with an hospitable care,
 Into her heart receives the wanderer.
 From her kind arms th' ungrateful heroe flies ;
 The injur'd queen looks on with dying eyes,
 Then to her folly falls a sacrifice.

Æneas now sets sail, and plying gains
 Fair Eryx, where his friend Acestes reigns :
 First to his fire does fun'ral rites decree,
 Then gives the signal next, and stands to sea ;
 Out-runs the islands where volcano's roar ;
 Gets clear of Sirens and their faithless shore :
 But loses Palinurus in the way ;
 Then makes Inarime, and Prochyta.

The transformation of CERCOPIANS into
Apes.

The gallies now by Pythecusa pass ;
The name is from the natives of the place.
The father of the gods detesting lies,
Oft, with abhorrence, heard their perjuries.
Th' abandon'd race, transform'd to beasts, began
To mimic the impertinence of man.
Flat-nos'd, and furrow'd, with grimace they grin ;
And look, to what they were, too near kin :
Merry in make, and busy to no end ;
This moment they divert, the next offend :
So much their species of their past retains ;
Tho' lost the language, yet the noise remains.

ÆNEAS descends to Hell.

Now, on his right, he leaves Parthenope,
His left Misenus jutting in the sea :
Arrives at Cuma, and with awe survey'd
The grotto of the venerable maid :
Begs leave thro' black Avernus to retire ;
And view the much-lov'd manes of his sire.
Straight the devining virgin rais'd her eyes :
And, foaming with a holy rage, replies :
O thou, whose worth thy wond'rous works proclaim ;
The flames, thy piety ; the world, thy fame ;

Tho' great be thy request, yet shalt thou see
 Th' Elysian fields, th' infernal monarchy,
 Thy parent's shade: This arm thy steps shall guide:
 To suppliant virtue nothing is deny'd.

She spoke, and pointing to the golden bough,
 Which in th' Avernian grove refulgent grew,
 Seize that, she bids; he listens to the maid;
 Then views the mournful mansions of the dead;
 The shade of great Anchises, and the place
 By Fates determin'd to the Trojan race.

As back to upper light the hero came,
 He thus salutes the visionary dame-----

O, Whether some propitious deity,
 Or lov'd by those bright rulers of the sky!
 With grateful incense I shall stile you one,
 And deem no godhead greater, than your own.
 'Twas you restor'd me from the realms of night,
 And gave me to behold the fields of light:
 To feel the breezes of congenial air;
 And nature's blest benevolence to share.

The story of the SIBYL.

I am no deity, reply'd the dame,
 But mortal, and religious rites disclaim.
 Yet had avoided Death's tyrannic sway,
 Had I consented to the god of day.
 With promises he sought my love, and said,
 Have all you wish, my fair Cumæan maid.
 I paus'd; then pointing to a heap of sand,
 For ev'ry grain, to live a year, demand.

But ah! unmindful of th' effect of time,
 Forgot to covenant for youth, and prime.
 The smiling bloom, I boasted once, is gone,
 And feeble age with lagging limbs creeps on.
 Sev'n cent'ries have I liv'd; three more fulfill
 The period of the years to finish still.
 Who'll think, that Phoebus, dress'd in youth divine,
 Had once believ'd his lustre less than mine?
 This wither'd frame (so fates have will'd) shall waste
 To nothing, but prophetic words, at last.

The Sibyl mounting now from nether skies,
 And the fam'd Ilian prince, at Cuma rise.
 He sail'd, and near the place to anchor came,
 Since call'd Cajeta from his nurse's name.
 Here did the luckless Macareus, a friend
 To wife Ulysses, his long labours end.
 Here, wandering, Achaemenides he meets,
 And sudden, thus his late associate, greets:

Whence came you here, O friend, and whither
 All gave you lost on far Cyclopiæ ground; [bound?
 A Greek's at last aboard a Trojan found.

The Adventures of ACHÆMENIDES.

Thus Achaemenides-----With thanks I name
 Æneas, and his piety proclaim.

I 'scap'd the Cyclops thro' the hero's aid,
 Else in his maw my mangled limbs had laid.
 Then first your navy under sail he found,
 He rav'd, till Ætna labour'd with the sound.
 Raging he stalk'd along the mountains side
 And vented clouds of breath at ev'ry stride.

His staff a mountain ash; and in the clouds
 Oft, as he walks, his grisly front he shrouds.
 Eyeless he grop'd about with vengeful haste,
 And jostled promontories, as he pass'd.
 Then heav'd a rock's high summit to the main,
 And bellow'd, like some bursting hurricane.

Oh! cou'd I seize Ulysses in his flight,
 How unlamented were my loss of sight!
 These jaws shou'd piece-meal tear each panting vein,
 Grind ev'ry crackling bone, and pound his brain.
 As thus he rav'd, my joints with horror shook;
 The tide of blood my chilling heart forsook,
 I saw him once disgorge huge morsels, raw,
 Of wretches undigested in his maw.
 From the pale breathless trunks whole limbs he tore,
 His beard all clotted with o'erflowing gore.
 My anxious hours I pass'd in caves; my food
 Was forest-fruits and wildings of the wood.
 At length a sail I wasted, and aboard
 My fortune found an hospitable lord.

Now, in return, your own adventures tell,
 And what, since first you put to sea, befel.

The Adventures of MACAREUS.

Then Marcareus-----There reign'd a prince of fame
 O'er Tuscan seas, and Æolus his name.
 A largess to Ulysses he consign'd,
 And in a steer's tough hide enclos'd a wind.
 Nine days before the swelling gale we ran;
 The tenth, to make the meeting land began:

When now the merry mariners, to find
 Imagin'd wealth within, the bag unbind.
 Forthwith out-rush'd a gust, which backwards bore }
 Our gallies to the Laeſtrigonian ſhore,
 Whoſe crown, Antiphates the tyrant wore.
 Some few commiſſion'd were with ſpeed to treat ;
 We to his court repair, his guards we meet.
 Two, friendly flight preſerv'd; the third was doom'd
 To be by thoſe curs'd canibals conſum'd.
 Inhumanly our hapleſs friends they treat ;
 Our men they murder, and deſtroy our fleet.
 In time the wiſe Ulyſſes bore away,
 And drop'd his anchor in yon faithleſs bay.
 The thoughts of perils paſt we ſtill retain,
 And fear to land, till lots appoints the men.
 Polites true, Elpenor giv'n to wine,
 Eurylochus, myſelf, the lots aſſign.
 Deſign'd for dangers, and reſolv'd to dare,
 To Circe's fatal palace we repair.

The Inchantments of Circe.

Before the ſpacious front, a herd we find
 Of beaſts, the fierceſt of the ſavage kind.
 Our trembling ſteps with blandiſhments they meet,
 And fawn, unlike their ſpecies, at our feet.
 Within, upon a ſumptuous throne of ſtate,
 On golden columns rais'd, th' enchantreſs ſate.
 Rich was her robe, and amiable her mein,
 Her aſpect awful, and ſhe look'd a queen.

Her maids nor mind the loom, nor household care,
 Nor wage in needle-work a Scythian war.
 But cull in canisters disastrous flow'rs,
 And plants from haunted heaths, and fairy bow'rs,
 With brazen sickles reap'd at planetary hours.
 Each dose the goddess weighs with watchful eye;
 So nice her art in impious pharmacy!
 Entering she greets us with a gracious look,
 And airs that future amity bespoke.
 Her ready nymphs serv'd up a rich repast;
 The bowl she dashes first, then gives to taste.
 Quick, to our own undoing, we comply;
 Her pow'r we prove, and shew the sorcery.

Soon, in a length of face our head extends;
 Our chin stiff bristles bears, and forward bends.
 A breadth of brawn new burnishes our neck;
 Anon we grunt, as we begin to speak.
 Alone Eurylochos refus'd to taste,
 Nor to a beast obscene the man debas'd:
 Hither Ulysses hastes (so fates command)
 And bears the pow'rful moly in his hand;
 Unsheaths his scimeter, assaults the dame,
 Preserves his species, and remains the same.
 The nuptial right this outrage straight attends;
 The dow'r desir'd is his transfigur'd friends.
 The incantation backward she repeats,
 Inverts her rod, and what she did, defeats.

And now our skin grows smooth, our shape upright;
 Our arms stretch up, our cloven feet unite.
 With tears our weeping gen'ral we embrace;
 Hang on his neck, and melt upon his face,

Twelve silver moons in Circe's court we stay,
 Whilst there they waste th' unwilling hours away.
 'Twas here I spy'd a youth in Parian stone;
 His head a pecker bore; the cause unknown
 To passengers. A nymph of Circe's train
 The myst'ry thus attempted to explain.

The Story of PICUS and CANENS.

Picus, who once th' Ausonian sceptre held,
 Could rein the steed, and fit him for the field.
 So like he was to what you see, that still
 We doubt if real, or the sculptor's skill.
 The graces in the finish'd piece, you find,
 Are but the copy of his fairer mind.
 Four lustres scarce the royal youth could name,
 'Till ev'ry love-sick nymph confess'd a flame.
 Oft for his love the mountain dryads su'd,
 And ev'ry silver sister of the flood;
 Those of Numicus, Albula, and those
 Where Almo creeps, and hasty Nar o'erflows:
 Where sedgy Anio glides thro' smiling meads,
 Where shady Farfar rustles in the reeds:
 And those that love the lakes, and homage owe
 To the chaste goddess of the silver bow.

In vain each nymph her brightest charms put on,
 His heart no sov'reign wou'd obey but one.
 She whom Venilia, on mount Palatine,
 To Janus bore, the fairest of her line.
 Nor did her face alone her charms confess,
 Her voice was ravishing, and pleas'd no less.

When'er she sung, so melting were her strains,
The flocks unfed seem'd list'ning on the plains;
The rivers wou'd stand still, the cedars bend;
And birds neglect their pinions to extend;
The savage kind in forest-wilds grow tame;
And Canens, from her heav'nly voice, her name.
Hymen had now in some ill-fated hour
Their hands united, as their hearts before.
Whilst their soft moments in delights they waste,
And each new day was dearer than the past;
Picus would sometimes o'er the forests rove,
And mingle sports with intervals of love.
It chanc'd, as once the foaming boar he chac'd,
His jewels sparkling on his Tyrian vest,
Lascivious Circe well the youth survey'd,
As simpling on the flow'ry hills she stray'd.
Her wishing eyes their silent message tell,
And from her lap the verdant mischief fell.
As she attempts at words, his courser springs
O'er hills, and lawns, and ev'n a wish outwings.

Thou shalt not 'scape me so, pronounc'd the dame,
If plants have pow'r, and spells be not a name.
She said---and forthwith form'd a boar of air,
That fought the covert with dissembled fear.
Swift to the thicket Picus wings his way
On foot, to chase the visionary prey.

Now she invokes the daughters of the night,
Does noxious juices smear, and charms recite;
Such as can veil the moon's more feeble fire,
Or shade the golden lustre of her fire.
In filthy fogs she hides the chearful noon;
The guard at distance, and the youth alone.

By those fair eyes, she cries, and ev'ry grace
That finish all the wonders of your face,
Oh! I conjure thee, hear a queen complain;
Nor let the sun's soft lineage sue in vain.

Whoe'er thou art, reply'd the king, forbear,
None can my passion with my Canens share,
She first my ev'ry tender wish possess'd,
And found the soft approaches to my breast.
In nuptials blest, each loose desire we shun,
Nor time can end, what innocence begun.

Think not, she cry'd, to santer out a life
Of form, with that domestic drudge a wife;
My just revenge, dull fool, ere long shall show
What ills we women, if refus'd, can do:
Think me a woman, and a lover too.

From dear successful spite we hope for ease,
Nor fail to punish, where we fail to please.

Now twice to east she turns, as oft to west;
Thrice waves her wand, as oft a charm express'd.
On the lost youth her magic pow'r she tries;
Aloft he springs, and wonders how he flies.
On painted plumes the woods he seeks, and still
The monarch oak he pierces with his bill.
Thus chang'd, no more o'er Latian lands he reigns;
Of Picus nothing but the name remains.

The winds from drizzling damps now purge the air,
The mists subside, the settling skies are fair:
The court their sovereign seek with arms in hand,
They threaten Circe, and their lord demand.
Quick she invokes the spirits of the air,
And twilight elves, that on dun wings repair
To charnels, and th' unhallow'd sepulcher.

Now, strange to tell, the plants sweat drops of blood,
The trees are toss'd from forests where they stood;
Blue serpents o'er the tainted herbage slide,
Pale glaring spectres on the aether ride;
Dogs howl, earth yawns, rent rocks forsake their beds,
And from their quarries heave their stubborn heads.
The sad spectators, stiffen'd with their fears,
She sees, and sudden ev'ry limb she smears;
Then each of savage beasts the figure bears. }
The sun did now to western waves retire,
In tides to temper his bright world of fire.
Canens laments her royal husband's stay;
Ill suits fond love with absence, or delay;
Where she commands, her ready people run;
She wills, retracts; bids, and forbids anon.
Restless in mind, and dying with despair,
Her breasts she beats, and tears her flowing hair.
Six days and nights she wanders on, as chance
Directs, without or sleep, or sustenance.
Tiber at last beholds the weeping fair;
Her feeble limbs no more the mourner bear;
Stretch'd on his banks, she to the flood complains,
And faintly tunes her voice to dying strains.
The sick'ning swan thus hangs her silver wings,
And, as she droops, her elegy she sings.
Ere-long sad Canens wastes to air; whilst same
The place still honours with her hapless name.

Here did the tender tale of Picus cease,
Above belief the wonder I confess.
Again we sail, but more disasters meet,
Foretold by Circe, to our suff'ring fleet.

Myself unable further woes to bear,
Declin'd the voyage, and am refug'd here.

ÆNEAS arrives in ITALY.

Thus Macareus—Now with a pious aim
Had good Æneas rais'd a flun'ral flame,
In honour of his hoary nurse's name.
Her epitaph he fix'd; and setting sail,
Cajeta left, and catch'd at ev'ry gale.

He steer'd at distance from the faithless shore
Where the false goddess reigns with fatal pow'r;
And sought those grateful groves, that shade the plain
Where Tiber rolls majestic to the main,
And fattens, as he runs, the fair champaign.
His kindred gods the hero's wishes crown
With fair Lavinia, and Latinus throne:
But not without a war the prize he won.
Drawn up in bright array the battle stands:
Turnus with arms his promis'd wife demands.
Hetrurians, Latians, equal fortune share;
And doubtful long appears the face of war.
Both pow'rs from neighb'ring princes seek supplies,
And embassies appoint for new allies.
Æneas, for relief, Evander moves;
His quarrel he asserts, his cause approves.
The bold Rutilians with an equal speed,
Sage Venelus dispatch to Diomedé.
The king, late griefs revolving in his mind,
These reasons for neutrality assign'd.----

Shall I, of one poor dotal town possess,
My people thin, my wretched country waste;
An exil'd prince, and on a shaking throne;
Or risk my patron's subjects, or my own?
You'll grieve the harshness of our hap to hear;
Nor can I tell the tale without a tear.

The Adventures of DIOMEDES.

After fam'd Illium was by Argives won,
And flames had finish'd what the sword begun;
Pallas, incens'd, pursu'd us to the main,
In vengeance of her violated fane.
Alone Oileus forc'd the Trojan maid,
Yet all were punish'd for the brutal deed.
A storm begins, the raging waves run high,
The clouds look heavy, and benight the sky;
Red sheets of light'ning o'er the seas are spread,
Our tackling yields, and wrecks at last succeed.
'Tis tedious our disastrous state to tell;
Ev'n Priam wou'd have pity'd what befall.
Yet Pallas sav'd me from the swallowing main;
At home new wrongs to meet, as fates ordain.
Chac'd from my country, I once more repeat
All suff'ring seas could give, or war compleat.
For Venus, mindful of her wound, decreed
Still new calamities should past succeed.
Agmon, impatient through successive ills,
With fury love's bright goddess thus reviles:—
These plagues in spite to Diomede are sent;
The crime is his, but ours the punishment.

Let each, my friends, her puny spleen despise,
 And dare that haughty harlot of the skies.
 The rest of Agmon's insolence complain,
 And of irreverence the wretch arraign.
 About to answer, his blaspheming throat
 Contracts, and shrieks in some disdainful note.
 To his new skin a fleece of feather clings,
 Hides his late arms, and lengthens into wings.
 The lower features of his face extend,
 Warp into horn, and in a beak descend.
 Some more experience Agmon's destiny,
 And, wheeling in the air, like swans they fly.
 These thin remains to Daunus' realms I bring;
 And here I reign a poor precarious king.

The Transformation of APPULUS.

Thus Diomedes. Venulus withdraws;
 Unsped the service of the common cause.
 Puteoli he passes, and survey'd
 A cave long honour'd for its awful shade:
 Here trembling reeds exclude the piercing ray;
 Here streams in gentle falls thro' windings stray,
 And with a passing breath cool zephyrs play. }
 The goat-herd god frequents the silent place,
 As once the wood-nymphs of the sylvan race:
 Till Appulus, with a dishonest air
 And gross behaviour, banish'd thence the fair.
 The bold buffoon, whene'er they tread the green,
 Their motion mimics, but with jest obscene:
 Loose language oft he utters; but ere long
 A bark in filmy net-work binds his tongue.

Thus chang'd, a base wild olive he remains :
The shrub the coarseness of the clown retains.

The TROJAN SHIPS transformed to Sea-nymphs.

Mean while the Latians all their pow'r prepare,
'Gainst Fortune and the foe, to push the war.
With Phrygian blood the floating fields they stain ;
But, short of succours, still contend in vain :
Turnus remarks the Trojan fleet ill-mann'd,
Unguarded, and at anchor near the strand :
He thought ; and straight a lighted brand he bore ;
And fire invades what 'scap'd the waves before.
The billows from the kindling prow retire ;
Pitch, rosin, fearwood on red wings aspire ;
And Vulcan on the seas exerts his attribute of fire.

This when the mother of the gods beheld,
Her tow'ry crown she shook, and stood reveal'd ;
Her brinkl'd lions rein'd, unveil'd her head,
And, hov'ring o'er her favour'd fleet, she said :

Cease Turnus, and the heav'nly pow'rs respect,
Nor dare to violate what I protect.
These gallies once fair trees on Ida stood,
And gave their shade to each descending god :
Nor shall consume ; irrevocable Fate
Allots their being no determin'd date.

Strait peals of thunder heav'n's high arches rend ;
The hail-stones leap, the show'rs in spouts descend :
The winds with widen'd throats the signal give ;
The cables break, the smoaky vessels drive.

Now, wond'rous, as they beat the foaming flood,
The timber softens into flesh and blood;
The yards and oars new arms and legs design;
A trunk the hull; the slender keel a spine;
The prow a female face; and, by degrees,
The gallies rise green daughters of the seas.
Sometimes on coral beds they sit in state;
Or wanton on the waves they fear'd of late.
The barks that beat the seas are still their care;
Themselves rememb'ring what of late they were.
To save a Trojan sail in throngs they press;
But smile to see Alcinous in distress.

Unable were those wonders to deter
The Latians from their unsuccessful war:
Both sides for doubtful victory contend;
And on their courage and their gods depend.
Nor bright Lavinia, nor Latinus' crown,
Warm their great souls to war like fair renown.
Venus at last beholds her godlike son
Triumphant, and the field of battle won;
Brave Turnus slain, strong Ardea but a name,
And bury'd in fierce deluges of flame.
Her tow'rs, that boasted once a sovereign sway,
The fate of fancy'd grandeur now betray.
A famish'd heron from the ashes springs,
And beats the ruin with disast'rous wings:
Calamities of towns distress'd she feigns,
And oft, with woeful shrieks, of war complains.

The Deification of ÆNEAS.

Now had Æneas, as ordain'd by Fate,
Surviv'd the period of Saturnia's hate ;
And by a sure irrevocable doom,
Fix'd the immortal majesty of Rome.
Fit for the station of his kindred stars,
His mother-goddeſs thus her ſuit prefers.

Almighty arbiter, whoſe pow'rful nod
Shakes diſtant earth, and bows our own abode !
To thy great progeny indulgent be,
And rank the goddeſs-born a deity.
Already has he view'd, with mortal eyes,
Thy brother's kingdoms of the nether ſkies.

Forthwith a conclave of the godhead meets,
Where Juno in the ſhining ſenate ſits.
Remorſe for paſt revenge the goddeſs feels ;
Then thund'ring Jove th' almighty mandate ſeals ;
Allots the prince of his celeſtial line
An apotheoſis, and rights divine.

The crystal manſions echo with applauſe,
And, with her graces, love's bright queen withdraws ;
Shoots in a blaze of light along the ſkies,
And, borne by turtle, to Laurentum flies ;
Alights where through the reeds Numicius ſtrays,
And to the ſeas his wat'ry tribute pays.
The god ſhe ſupplicates to waſh away
The parts more groſs and ſubject to decay,
And cleanſe the goddeſs-born from ſeminal allay.
The horned flood with glad attention ſtands,
Then bids his ſtreams obey their ſire's commands.

His better parts by lustral waves refin'd,
 More pure, and nearer to aethereal mind,
 With gums of fragrant scent the goddess strews,
 And on his features breathes ambrosial dews.
 Thus deify'd, new honours Rome decrees,
 Shrines, festivals; and stiles him Indiges.

The Line of the LATIAN KINGS.

Afcanius now the Latian sceptre sways;
 The Alban nation Sylvius next obeys.
 Then young Latinus: Next an Alba came,
 The grace and guardian of the Alban name.
 Then Epitus; then gentle Capys reign'd;
 Then Capetis the regal pow'r sustain'd.
 Next he who perish'd in the Tuscan flood,
 And honour'd with his name the river-god.
 Now haughty Romulus began his reign,
 Who fell by thunder he aspir'd to feign.
 Meek Acrota succeeded to the crown;
 From peace endeav'ring, more than arms, renown,
 To Aventinus well resign'd his throne. }
 The mount on which he rul'd preserves his name:
 And Procas wore the regal diadem.

The Story of VERTUMNUS and POMONA.

A Hamadryad flourish'd in these days,
 Her name Pomona, from her woodland race.
 In garden-culture none could so excel,
 Or form the pliant souls of plants so well;

Or to the fruit more gen'rous flavours lend;
Or teach the trees with nobler loads to bend.

The nymph frequented not the flatt'ring stream,
Nor meads, the subject of a virgin's dream;
But to such joys her nurs'ry did prefer,
Alone to tend her vegetable care.

A pruning-hook she carry'd in her hand,
And taught the stragglers to obey command;
Lest the licentious and unthrifty bough,
The too-indulgent parent should undo.
She shows, how stocks invite to their embrace
A graft, and naturalize a foreign race,
To mend the savage taint; and, in its stead,
Adopt new nature, and a nobler breed.

Now hourly she observes her growing care,
And guards their nonage from the bleaker air:
Then opes her streaming sluices to supply,
With flowing draughts, her thrifty family.

Long had she labour'd to continue free
From chains of love and nuptial tyranny;
And, in her orchard's small extent immur'd,
Her vow'd virginity she still secur'd.
Oft would loose Pan, and all the lustful train
Of satyrs, tempt her innocence in vain.
Silenus, that old dotard, own'd a flame;
And he, that frights the thieves with stratagem
Of sword, and something else too gross to name.
Vertumnus too pursu'd the maid no less;
But with his rivals shar'd a like success.
To gain access a thousand ways he tries;
Oft in the hind the lover would disguise.

The heedless lout comes shambling on, and seems
Just sweating from the labour of his teams.
Then, from the harvest, oft the mimic swain
Seems bending with a load of bearded grain.
Sometimes a dresser of the vine he feigns,
And lawless tendrils to their bounds restrains.
Sometimes his sword a soldier shews, his rod,
An angler ; still so various is the god.
Now, in a forehead cloth, some crone he seems,
A staff supplying the defect of limbs :
Admittance thus he gains ; admires the store
Of fairest fruit ; the fair possessor more :
Then greets her with a kiss ; th' unpractis'd dame
Admir'd a grandame kiss'd with such a flame.
Now, seated by her, he beholds a vine
Around an elm in am'rous foldings twine.
If that fair elm, he cry'd, alone should stand,
No grapes would glow with gold, and tempt the hand :
Or if that vine without her elm should grow,
'T would creep a poor neglected shrub below.
Be then, fair nymph, by these examples led ;
Nor shun, for fancy'd fears, the nuptial bed.
Not she for whom the Lapithites took arms,
Nor Sparta's queen, could boast such heav'nly charms.
And, if you would on woman's faith rely,
None can your choice direct so well as I.
Tho' old, so much Pomona I adore,
Scarce does the bright Vertumnus love her more.
'Tis your fair self alone his breast inspires
With softest wishes and unsoil'd desires.
Then fly all vulgar followers, and prove
The god of seasons only worth your love :

On my assurance well you may repose ;
 Vertumnus scarce Vertumnus better knows.
 True to his choice, all looser flames he flies ;
 Nor for new faces fashionably dies.
 The charms of youth, and ev'ry smiling grace,
 Bloom in his features, and the god confess.
 Besides, he puts on ev'ry shape at ease ;
 But those the most, that best Pomona please.
 Still to oblige her is her lover's aim ;
 Their likings and aversions are the same.
 Nor the fair fruit your burden'd branches bear,
 Nor all the youthful product of the year,
 Could bribe his choice; yourself alone can prove
 A fit reward for so refin'd a love.
 Relent, fair nymph, and with a kind regret,
 Think 'tis Vertumnus weeping at your feet.
 A tale attend, thro' Cyprus known, to prove
 How Venus once reveng'd neglected love.

The Story of IPHIS and ANAXARETE.

Iphis, of vulgar birth, by chance had view'd
 Fair Anaxarete of Teucer's blood.
 Not long had he beheld the royal dame,
 Ere the bright sparkle kindled into flame.
 Oft did he struggle with a just despair,
 Untix'd to ask, unable to forbear.
 But love, who flatters still his own disease,
 Hopes all things will succeed he knows will please.
 Where'er the fair one haunts, he hovers there ;
 And seeks her confident with sighs, and pray'r ;

Or letters he conveys, that seldom prove
 Successful messengers in suits of love.

Now shiv'ring at her gates the wretch appears ;
 And myrtle garlands on the columns rears,
 Wet with a deluge of unbidden tears. }
 The nymph, more hard than rocks, more deaf than seas,
 Derides his pray'r ; insults his agonies :
 Arraigns of insolence th' aspiring swain ;
 And takes a cruel pleasure in his pain.
 Resolv'd at last to finish his despair,
 He thus upbraids th' inexorable fair :

O Anaxarete, at last forget
 The licence of a passion indiscreet.
 Now triumph, since a welcome sacrifice
 Your slave prepares, to offer to your eyes.
 My life, without reluctance, I resign ;
 That present best can please a pride like thine.
 But, O ! forbear to blast a flame so bright,
 Doom'd never to expire, but with the light.
 And you, great pow'rs, do justice to my name ;
 The hours, you take from life, restore to fame.

Then o'er the posts, once hung with wreathes, he throws
 The ready cord, and fits the fatal noose ;
 For death prepares ; and, bounding from above,
 At once the wretch concludes his life and love.

Ere long the people gather, and the dead
 Is to his mourning mother's arms convey'd.
 First, like some ghastly statue, she appears ;
 Then bathes the breathless corse in seas of tears,
 And gives it to the pile ; now as the throng
 Proceed in sad solemnity along,

To view the passing pomp, the cruel fair
Hastes, and beholds her breathless lover there.
Struck with the sight, inanimate she seems;
Set are her eyes, and motionless her limbs;
Her features without fire, her colour gone,
And, like her heart, she hardens into stone.
In Salamis the statue still is seen,
In the fam'd temple of the Cyprian queen.
Warn'd by this tale, no longer then disdain,
O nymph belov'd, to ease a lover's pain.
So may the frosts in spring your blossoms spare,
And winds their rude autumnal rage forbear.

The story oft Vertumnus urg'd in vain;
But then assum'd his heav'nly form again.
Such looks, and lustre the bright youth adorn,
As when with rays glad Phoebus paints the morn.
The sight so warms the fair admiring maid,
Like snow she melts: So soon can youth persuade.
Consent, on eager winds, succeeds desire;
And both the lovers glow with mutual fire.

The LATIAN Line continued.

Now Procas yielding to the fates, his son,
Mild Numitor, succeeded to the crown.
But false Amulius, with a lawless pow'r,
At length depos'd his brother Numitor.
Then Ilia's valiant issue, with the sword,
Her parent reinthron'd, the rightful lord.

Next Romulus to people Rome contrives;
The joyous time of Pales' feast arrives;
He gives the word to seize the Sabine wives,
The fires enrag'd take arms, by Tatius led,
Bold to revenge their violated bed.

A fort there was, not yet unknown to fame,
Call'd the Tarpeian, its commander's name.
This by the false Tarpeia was betray'd:
But death well recompens'd the treach'rous maid.
The foe on this new-bought success relies,
And silent march, the city to surprise.

Saturnia's arts with Sabine arms combine;
But Venus countermines the vain design;
Intreats the nymphs that o'er the springs preside,
Which near the fane of hoary Janus glide,
To send their succours; ev'ry urn they drain,
To stop the Sabines progress, but in vain.

The naiads now more stratagems essay;
And kindling sulphur to each source convey.
The floods ferment, hot exhalations rise,
Till from the scalding ford the army flies.
Soon Romulus appears in shining arms,
And to the war the Roman legions warms:
The battle rages, and the field is spread
With nothing but the dying and the dead.
Both sides consent to treat without delay;
And their two chiefs at once the sceptre sway.
But Tatius by Lavinian fury slain;
Great Romulus continu'd long to reign.

The Assumption of ROMULUS.

Now warrior Mars his burnish'd helm puts on,
And thus addresses heav'n's imperial throne.

Since the inferior world is now become
One vassal globe, and colony to Rome,
This grace, O Jove, for Romulus I claim;
Admit him to the skies, from whence he came :
Long hast thou promis'd an aethereal state
To Mars's lineage ; and thy word is fate.

The sue that rules the thunder, with a nod,
Declar'd the *fiat*, and dismiss'd the god.

Soon as the pow'r armipotent survey'd
The flashing skies, the signal he obey'd ;
And leaning on his lance, he mounts his car,
His fiery coursers lashing thro' the air.

Mount Palatine he gains, and finds his son,
Good laws enacting on a peaceful throne ;
The scales of heav'nly justice holding high,
With steady hand, and a discerning eye.
Then vaults upon his car, and to the spheres,
Swift as a flying shaft, Rome's founder bears.

The parts more pure, in-rising are refin'd,
The gross and perishable lag behind.

His shrine in purple vestments stands in view ;
He looks a god, and is Quirinus now.

The Assumption of HERSILIA.

Ere-long the goddess of the nuptial bed,
 With pity mov'd, sends Iris in her stead
 To sad Hersilia—thus the meteor maid :

Chaste relief! in bright truth to heav'n ally'd,
 The Sabines glory, and the sex's pride;
 Honour'd on earth, and worthy of the love
 Of such a spouse, as now resides above;
 Some respite to thy killing griefs afford;
 And, if thou would'st once more behold thy lord,
 Retire to yon steep mount, with groves o'er-spread,
 Which with an awful gloom his temple shade.

With fear the modest matron lifts her eyes,
 And to the bright ambassadress replies:
 O goddess, yet to mortal eyes unknown,
 But sure thy various charms confess thee one:
 O quick to Romulus thy votress bear,
 With looks of love he'll smile away my care:
 In whate'er orb he shines, my heav'n is there.

Then hastes with Iris to the holy grove,
 And up the mount Quirinal as they move,
 A lambent flame glides downward thro' the air,
 And brightens with a blaze Hersilia's hair.
 Together on the bounding ray they rise,
 And shoot a gleam of light along the skies.
 With op'ning arms Quirinus met his bride,
 Now Ora nam'd, and press'd her to his side.

OVID's METAMORPHOSES,

B O O K XV.

The Story of CIPPUS.

OR as when Cippus in the current view'd
The shooting horns that on his forehead stood,
His temples first he feels, and with surprise
His touch confirms th' assurance of his eyes.
Straight to the skies his horned front he rears,
And to the gods directs these pious pray'rs.

If this portent be prosp'rous, O decree
To Rome th' event ; if otherwise, to me.
An altar then of turf he hastes to raise ;
Rich gums in fragrant exhalations blaze ;
The panting entrails crackle as they fry,
And boding fumes pronounce a mystery.
Soon as the augur saw the holy fire,
And victims with presaging signs expire ;
To Cippus then he turns his eyes with speed,
And views the horny honours of his head :
Then cry'd, Hail ! conqueror ! thy call obey :
Those omens I behold presage thy sway.
Rome waits thy nod, unwilling to be free,
And owns thy sov'reign pow'r as Fate's decree.

He said---and Cippus, starting at th' event,
Spoke in these words his pious discontent.

Far hence, ye gods, this execration send,
And the great race of Romulus defend.
Better that I in exile live abhorr'd,
Than e'er the Capitol should stile me lord.

This spoke, he hides with leaves his omen'd head,
Then prays, the senate next convenes, and said,
If augurs can foresee, a wretch is come,
Design'd by destiny the bane of Rome.
Two horns (most strange to tell) his temples crown ;
If e'er he pass the walls and gain the town,
Your laws are forfeit that ill-fated hour,
And liberty must yield to lawless pow'r.
Your gates he might have enter'd ; but this arm
Seiz'd the usurper, and withheld the harm.
Haste, find the monster out, and let him be
Condemn'd to all the senate can decree ;
Or ty'd in chains, or into exile thrown ;
Or by the tyrant's death prevent your own.

The crowd such murmurs utter as they stand,
As swelling surges breaking on the strand :
Or as when gath'ring gales sweep o'er the grove,
And their tall heads the bending cedars move.
Each with confusion gaz'd, and then began
To feel his fellow's brows, and find the man.
Cippus then shakes his garland off, and cries,
The wretch you want, I offer to your eyes.

The anxious throng look'd down, and, sad in thought,
All wish'd they had not found the sign they sought :
In haste with laurel wreaths his head they bind ;
Such honour to such virtue was assign'd.
Then thus the senate---Hear, O Cippus, hear ;
So god-like is thy tutelary care,

That since in Rome thyself forbids thy stay,
For thy abode those acres we convey
The plough-share can surround, the labour of a day.
In deathless records thou shalt stand inroll'd;
And Rome's rich posts shall shine with horns of gold.

A SOLILOQUY out of the Italian.

COu'd he whom my dissembled rigour grieves,
 But know what torment to my soul it gives;
 He'd find how fondly I return his flame,
 And want myself the pity he wou'd claim.
 Immortal gods! why has your doom decreed
 Two wounded hearts with equal pangs shou'd bleed?
 Since that great law, which your tribunal guides,
 Has join'd in love whom destiny divides;
 Repent, ye pow'rs, the injuries you cause;
 Or change our natures, or reform your laws.
 Unhappy partner of my killing pain,
 'Think what I feel the moment you complain.
 Each sigh you utter wounds my tend'rest part;
 So much my lips misrepresent my heart.
 When from your eyes the falling drops distil,
 My vital blood in every tear you spill:
 And all those mournful agonies I hear,
 Are but the echoes of my own despair.

An Imitation of a French Author.

CAN you count the silver lights
 That deck the skies, and cheer the nights :
 Or the leaves that strow the vales,
 When groves are stript by winter gales :
 Or the drops that in the morn
 Hang with transparent pearl the thorn ;
 Or bridegroom's joys, or miser's cares,
 Or gamester's oaths, or hermit's pray'rs :
 Or envy's pangs, or love's alarms,
 Or Marlborough's acts, or -----'s charms ?

An Imitation of a French Author.

Can you count the silver lights
That deck the sky and cheer the night;

Or the jewels that crown the valleys?

Or the groves and hills of winter clad;

Or the drops that in the morn

Long with transparent beads the earth

Or the room's a jewel in the sun

Or the garden's a jewel in the sun

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